





## HOME NEWS

## Mrs Thatcher 'trying to imply Britain faces Russia alone'

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, said in a statement yesterday that Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, was seeking to give the impression that Britain alone faced the might of the Warsaw Pact powers.

He added: "As if Britain alone could stem the tide of ideological struggles emanating in various parts of the world."

He issued his statement after denying a report that at the weekend he had been instructed by the Prime Minister to attack Mrs Thatcher as a "cold war warrior".

The statement, he said, was made on his own initiative, without any consultation with Mr Wilson.

"Nato faces the Soviet Union, not just Britain," he said. "The job of the Chancellor is to preserve a sound economy; the

job of the Defence Secretary is to preserve security. No cuts in defence have been made at the expense of Nato."

Further support for Mrs Thatcher's stand comes in a statement issued today by the Conservative Bow Group. It criticizes Mr Mason for his "naivety" in international affairs.

It argues that Mr Mason's suggestion that Mrs Thatcher's comments would "jeopardize peace" could be correct only if the security of western Europe depended on Russian good will.

"If Mr Mason's comment is true, then presumably our military forces and those of our Nato allies should be strengthened and he will therefore be taking steps to halt his party's planned defence cuts."

## £200,000 aid to opposition parties

By Our Political Staff

Government aid totalling nearly £200,000 has been given to five of the six opposition parties in Parliament since the financial assistance scheme was approved last March. Mr Short, Lord President of the Council, said yesterday in a written answer.

The Conservative Party had so far received £150,000, the Liberal Party £33,234, the Scottish National Party £9,698, Plaid Cymru £2,331, and the Social Democratic Labour Party (which has one MP, Mr Gerard Fitt) £952.

The financial assistance granted is for political parties in Parliament. The Houghton committee is examining the question of assistance for political parties outside Westminster.

In another written answer, Mr Short said that in 1975 £239,965 was paid to the Post Office for the prepaid stationery which was provided for MPs.

He explained that the charge was calculated on the basis that 27 per cent of the mail went first class, but added that the House of Commons (Services) Committee was considering the question of providing second-class prepaid envelopes.

## 'Scottish Daily News' plant to be auctioned

The plant of the Scottish Daily News, which ceased publication on November 8, is to be auctioned in Glasgow in the week beginning May 3, Mr James Whitton, the liquidator, announced yesterday.

The building will be sold later. Mr Whitton said a private sale was not precluded. He had had no offers for the business as a going concern, and was proceeding with preparations for the auction, which he had discussed with leaders of the city and with former employees of the newspaper.

The plant had a realizable value of £342,000. About £250,000 was required to meet the claims of the preferred creditors, but there were total debts of just under £2m. Mr Whitton said that a very few of the 519 employees had found new employment. About three out of more than 40 journalists had found new jobs. "It is a dreadful situation," he said.

## Peace call in Ulster gets uneven response

From Our Correspondent Belfast

A call by some trade unionists for two minutes' silence in sympathy with the victims of terrorism in Northern Ireland got a mixed reception yesterday. The response in many factories was poor and in some places absent. But the Irish Congress of Trade Unions campaign committee which sponsored the call said that it was greatly heartened by the public expression of support.

The call seemed largely to have been ignored either because managements felt it to be inappropriate to decide whether to participate or because of last-minute opposition from the "loyalist" Ulster Workers' Council.

In Belfast, traffic round the city hall stopped at 11 am, but elsewhere in the city it was normal. About two hundred people gathered outside the city hall and later signed a declaration calling for an immediate end to violence in Northern Ireland. The number of signatures rose to 5,000 in two hours.

Mr Terence Carlin, Northern Ireland organizer of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, said: "I was quite pleased with the turnout. If we union officials."

The organization denied the peace campaign had been inspired, sponsored or promoted by any political party or by any body outside the Northern Ireland unions. It said: "We have however warmly welcomed the growing support from many public representatives and organisations in Northern Ireland and from international trade union organizations."



People observing the two minutes' silence in Belfast.

Employers had been asked to sound sirens to tell the workers when the silence began but in most places where it was observed the message went round by word of mouth. The Confederation of British Industry had supported the move, but said it did not agree with the two-minute stoppage.

Mr Thomas Passmore, county grandmaster of the Orange Order in Belfast, said that many people were suspicious of the other demands linked to the peace call which he said threatened the ends of the republican clubs. Politics behind religion, page 14.

## Home Office obdurate on IRA man

By David Leigh

The Home Office remained obdurate yesterday in the face of what it described as the continued deterioration of the health of Sean Stagg, a 35-year-old hunger striker, now in the forty-sixth day of his fast at Wakefield prison.

In a statement issued as Provisional Sinn Féin supporters in Belfast occupied an inland Revenue office for protest, the Home Office said that the Home Office's attitude, the ministry said Mr Stagg, who was jailed for 10 years for plotting to blow up buildings in Coventry, would not be moved to a Northern Ireland prison. "Stagg has no known associations with Northern Ireland," it said.

That claim is disputed by Mr Stagg's family, many of whom are still gathered at Wakefield. They say that his mother and his brother Sean live in Co Mayo in the republic. The Home Office view is that prisoners who want transfers must have been born in the area they want to go to, or have lived there or have next of kin there. Mr Stagg, who was born in Coventry in 1933, was born in the republic.

The statement said that Mr Stagg, who was jailed in December, 1973, had been offered a return to prison near Coventry, that would almost certainly be Gartree, the nearest maximum security prison.

Mr Stagg would not be forced, the statement said, and added that political status did not arise from the Irish Republic and 11 when they arrived in Britain. This time there is expected to be even closer cooperation among international counter-insurgency agencies.

Tory MP for Birmingham, Mr Kenneth Robinson, said that Mr Stagg, who was in the Commons yesterday to table a private notice question asking the Home Secretary what action he proposed to take on the conference (the Press Association reported). He said that she would submit a Commons question in the same terms for answer later.

On the occasion of a similar conference in 1974, 15 prospective delegates were turned back, three from the Irish Republic and 11 when they arrived in Britain. This time there is expected to be even closer cooperation among international counter-insurgency agencies.

## Union action is sought if US bans Concorde

By Our Air Correspondent

British trade unions will be asked to hold up goods imported by sea from New York if the United States bans Concorde flights. A group of MPs from both main parties agreed at a meeting in the Commons last night to take that step.

The decision whether the Concorde should be allowed to land at New York and Washington airports is expected to be made in the next few days. But even if Mr William Coleman, Secretary of State for Transport, says the ports in New York, the Port of New York Authority, which administers the international airport there, might refuse permission. In that case the MPs will ask that their delaying plan should go ahead.

## Mr Clive Jenkins hints at move to recall TUC

By Tim Jones

Armed with a thoroughly researched and extremely pessimistic forecast of Britain's economic condition, Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, will today urge the General Council of the TUC to sanction a discussion by trade union executives on unemployment and import controls.

His union's quarterly economic reviews are becoming increasingly important at a time when large unions are beginning to question the validity of TUC-Government economic strategy with regard to unemployment. Mr Jenkins said yesterday that the country had reached an "economic Vietnam" and hinted that there might be moves to implement a special conference where the right measures were taken to halt the rise in unemployment.

## Cruise offer at half price for children

More than two hundred children whose plans for an educational cruise have been overbooked have been offered a new deal by P & O, the shipping line involved. It is a half-price trip on an alternative cruise. According to the company, 180 parents have accepted the offer.

Parents have been threatening to take legal action against P & O over the £134-a-head 12-day cruise in the Uganda, planned to start in six weeks. P & O said yesterday that out of 218 children from schools in Buckinghamshire affected by the overbooking 18 parents had accepted a new offer for places at half price on one of several alternative cruises. The original cruise in the 1,000-berth Uganda was to have taken in Venice, Istanbul, Egypt and the Greek Islands.

## Festival of the left planned in Ireland

From Christopher Walker Dublin

Left-wing revolutionary groups from more than 60 countries have been invited to send delegates to a two-week "anti-imperialist festival" which will be staged in Dublin and Belfast in July. It is being organized by official Sinn Féin, the Marxist-oriented political wing of the official IRA. The main topics on the agenda will be the Irish struggle for liberation and the activities of multinational companies in Ireland.

The conference, to which 1,700 invitations have been sent out, is expected to be the largest of its type ever held and will help to reinforce the growing international links between revolutionary organizations. They are already causing serious concern to Western intelligence services, which will be keeping the proceedings under close surveillance. Among the groups invited are the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the MPLA from Angola, the Cuban Communist Party and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arab Gulf.

Last night Mr Sean Connery, Sinn Féin's director of international affairs, said that all delegates attending the conference would be advised to travel incognito to avoid interception by the immigration authorities. The first week of the conference, which will include exhibitions, guided tours, lectures and workshops, will be held in Dublin; after that the delegates will move to Belfast.

Mr Connery said: "We distinguish closely between liberation movements and terror groups. Anyone we regard as having sympathy with the Provisionals will not be asked to attend."

Official Sinn Féin is a left-wing organisation in the Irish Republic. It is thought unlikely that the Irish Government will ban the festival.

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## Driving test fee going up to £6.75

By Our Motoring Correspondent

The driving test fee, which has been £2.25 for the past six years, is going up to £6.75 from August 1, Mr Gilbert, Minister for Transport, announced yesterday. The cost of the test was now exceeding revenue from fees by £250,000 a month.

He also issued a consultative document setting out proposals for widening the scope of the test and tightening the system of driving instruction. It is being sent to interested parties for comment. The proposals on driving instruction, which Mr Gilbert hopes to implement this year, are aimed at cutting the proportion of trainees who fail the test. The fee paid for a trainee licence would go up from £1 to £1.5, and the duration of the licence reduced from six to four months. The permitted ratio of trainee to full instructors, which is now one to one, would become one to three or two to four or six.

The minister is also looking at the possibility of limiting the choice made by driving schools for lessons given by trainee instructors. Changes to the test itself would not be brought in for at least a year. Mr Gilbert is seeking comment on whether the test should include a parking manoeuvre and a written paper on the Highway Code and car maintenance essential to safety.

## Submarine explosion injures seven workmen

From Our Correspondent Glasgow

Seven workmen were injured, one seriously, in an explosion in the Hays shipyard, Glasgow, yesterday. The Scott Litho shipbuilding group on the Clyde is building for the Chilean Navy. It was being fitted out in the Carsburn yard of the group's naval construction unit at Greenock.

The explosion was due to gas in a fresh-water tank at the after end of the submarine, in the bilges below the engine room. It was described by a company as a minor one and badly buckled a metal plate.

Greenock police said sabotage had been ruled out. The man who was seriously injured is Mr Thomas Finnan, aged 28, a painter, of Perwick Street, Glasgow, who has severe burns to his face, head, hands, legs and feet.

Three others detained in hospital with burns are Mr Louis Brown, aged 54, a sheetmetal worker, of Pleasantside Avenue, Port Glasgow, Mr James Loe, aged 44, a copper burner, Innespark Road, Stelmor, 24, an engineer, of Cadell Street, Greenock.

Our Defence Correspondent writes: The explosion was another setback in the life of the Hays, which has with its sister boat, the Ory, had an unhappy history since both were ordered by the Scots in 1969.

The two 1,610-ton submarines and two Leander class frigates were ordered by the Argentine before President Alfonsín came to power, as part of a naval modernization programme.

They ran into trouble the right-wing revolution in 1973, when the Argentine tried to cancel the order.

The frigates have been completed, but the submarine modernization programme has been delayed when electric cables were found to be faulty and had to be replaced.

## Women lose under railway decision on fare concession

By a Staff Reporter

British Rail, which, in response to the Sex Discrimination Act, had attempted to abolish women's waiting rooms on stations, is trying to find a loophole in the legislation to stop retired female employees from getting equal travel concessions. The Equal Opportunities Commission is trying to stop the plan.

Railway workers get many concessions, mostly inherited from the days of the private railway companies.

When the Act came into force last month British Rail agreed to give workers' husbands equal travel privileges. They refused to give them to

husbands of retired women on the ground that the Act did not force them to cover retirement benefits. "The requirement of the Act is for the benefit of the staff of British Rail said."

The National Civil Liberties Council has protested British Rail's decision. It says that the pensioners, which have the pensioners' rights, are being denied the right to bring law suits having taken with the railway. Its staff believe that the travel concessions directly linked to pension money which may be lost illegally. The Act will have no clear answer, short of in the courts.

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## NHS royal commission head named

By Our Medical Reporter

Mr Alexander, Medical Commission of the NHS, is to be chairman of the Royal Commission on National Health Service, Prime Minister announced yesterday.

Mr Alexander, 51, was chairman of the midwife inquiry into the deaths of two babies in a hospital in Glasgow in 1974. He is a member of the General Medical Council in its report.

The decision to set up a royal commission to look at the NHS was taken in October 20 last year.

Burned of 1,000 fingerprints

Northumbria police said yesterday that the first 1,000 fingerprints taken in the search to find the murderer of a woman, aged 82, who was killed in Newcastle yesterday. They will be in a brazier.

Kielder dam review

The Northumbria Authority is to investigate possibility of building a dam at Kielder, in the valley of the Great Ouse, in the north, in order to raise the estimated £60m cost of the project.

## Mercedes-Benz introduces new safety improvements

By Peter Waymark

Mercedes-Benz today announces a new body and safety improvements for its compact range, the S Class. The existing cars, which were introduced in 1968, will stay in production as a lower-priced alternative.

In redesigning its compact model Mercedes has followed the styling of the bigger S Class range. The bodyshell is less angular and there is a nearer headlight arrangement with different treatments for the four-cylinder and six-cylinder cars. Overall the new body is slightly longer and wider.

New safety features include the adoption of the S Class front axle for better handling and roadholding, extra strength in the body to protect occupants in a collision, and "wrap-around" head and tail lights

that make the car clearly visible from the side.

The cars will be available in Britain in October and will probably be launched at the London Motor Show. As on the existing compact model, there will be a choice of petrol engines from 2 litres to 2.8 litres but the diesel units will include one new to Britain, the five-cylinder 3 litre.

The top car in the Mercedes range, the S Class 6.9 litre with 200/280 saloon range. The bodyshell is less angular and there is a nearer headlight arrangement with different treatments for the four-cylinder and six-cylinder cars. Overall the new body is slightly longer and wider.

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## Judge jails man who broke agreement over petrol

Mr Roy Cecil Bush, a garage owner who sold cut-price petrol from an anonymous source in defiance of a court order to confine his sales to Shell, was jailed by Mr Justice Templeman in the High Court yesterday for 28 days. The judge said Mr Bush needed a short and sharp lesson.

Mr Bush is managing director of companies that control the Alpha and Beta service stations at Station Road, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire. The jail order was made on the application of Shell Marketing Ltd.

The company alleged that Mr Bush had broken his agreement to sell only Shell and an injunction to stick to that agreement. Mr Bush, of Wendover Road, Stoke Mandeville, maintained that Shell was treating him unfairly by giving his competitors rebates and credit terms denied him.

The judge said that early in 1975, after Mr Bush had run into financial difficulties, Shell refused him credit terms and required him to pay for his supplies in cash or banker's draft. Mr Bush decided to break his agreement and to obtain petrol from other sources. After orders had been made against him in October and November he resumed taking deliveries of Shell Petrol deliveries other than Shell were made secretly in breach of the injunction. Mr Bush contended that the deliveries were made as a trap for Shell and were not intended for resale. He alleged that Shell was hounding him and asking him to drive him out of business.

The judge said: "It is clear that this is all a lot of nonsense. Mr Bush now poses as a little man fighting the oil companies. And although it has been suggested that if I punish him he will become a martyr. I do not take that view."

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## Bewbush: Some commission may be repaid

Continued from page 1

Mr Brooks said, "and I conveyed to him [Sir Don Ryder] what was said at that meeting."

Asked why they allowed such a large interest to Mr Smith, Mr Guthrie said: "We did not consider it large. It may have been large in the event, but we had no way of knowing at that time whether the deal would be profitable or otherwise. He had not communicated their decision to Mr Brooks, who 'probably would not have known what percentage was agreed'."

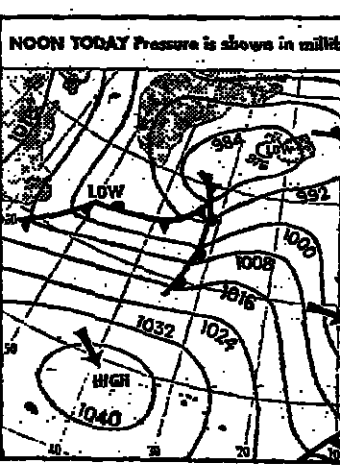
The partners of Weller Eggar issued a statement on Monday saying that if Mr Brooks's approval of the financial stakes of the agents in the Bewbush transaction could not be established to their satisfaction, they would pay to Mr Brooks "any additional income received by them as part of Mr John Smith's personal interest in the transaction."

Exactly how much is involved is not clear, nor would the firm clarify that yesterday. It is known that Mr John Smith received £700,000 from the venture, half of which he shared between his son, Christopher, and Mr Derek Ritchie. Mr John Smith has retired from the firm. His son and Mr Ritchie ceased to be partners last Wednesday.

Mr Richard Cristin, Mr Brooks's Jersey-based tax lawyer, said yesterday that he was waiting for Weller Eggar to get in touch with him.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors said yesterday that the Bewbush land transactions, which had been conducted by some of its members, were being considered by the professional practice committee under the institution's rules of conduct.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today  
Sun rises: 7.46 am  
Sun sets: 5.29 pm  
Moon rises: 4.41 pm  
Moon sets: 2.11 pm  
New moon: January 31.  
Lighting up: 5.11 pm to 7.15 am.  
High water: London Bridge, 11.35 am, 6.30 pm (20.7 ft).  
Low water: London Bridge, 4.44 am, 11.11 am (26.5 ft); 5.17 pm, 11.44 pm (27.3 ft).  
Dover, 8.52 am, 4.44 pm (26.5 ft); 9.25 pm, 6.04 am (27.3 ft).  
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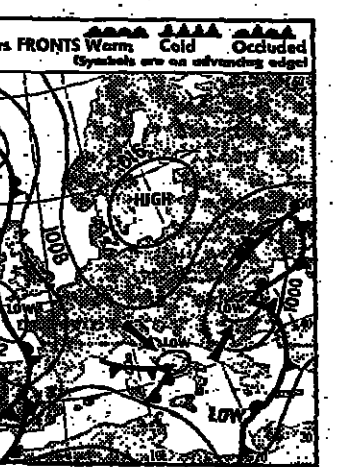
A trough of low pressure will move slowly into W districts. Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:  
London: S. England, E. England, E. Midlands: Mostly dry, mist patches at first, bright spells, cloudy later; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Central S. NW England, W Midlands: Mostly dry, becoming cloudy, rain later; wind SE, light, becoming moderate; max temp 6°C (43°F).

S. E. NW England: Dry, bright spells, cloudy later; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Wales: Cloudy, rain spreading W to all parts; wind SE moderate or fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Channel: Dry, overcast and foggy; rain at times; wind SE, light or moderate; max temp 4°C (39°F).



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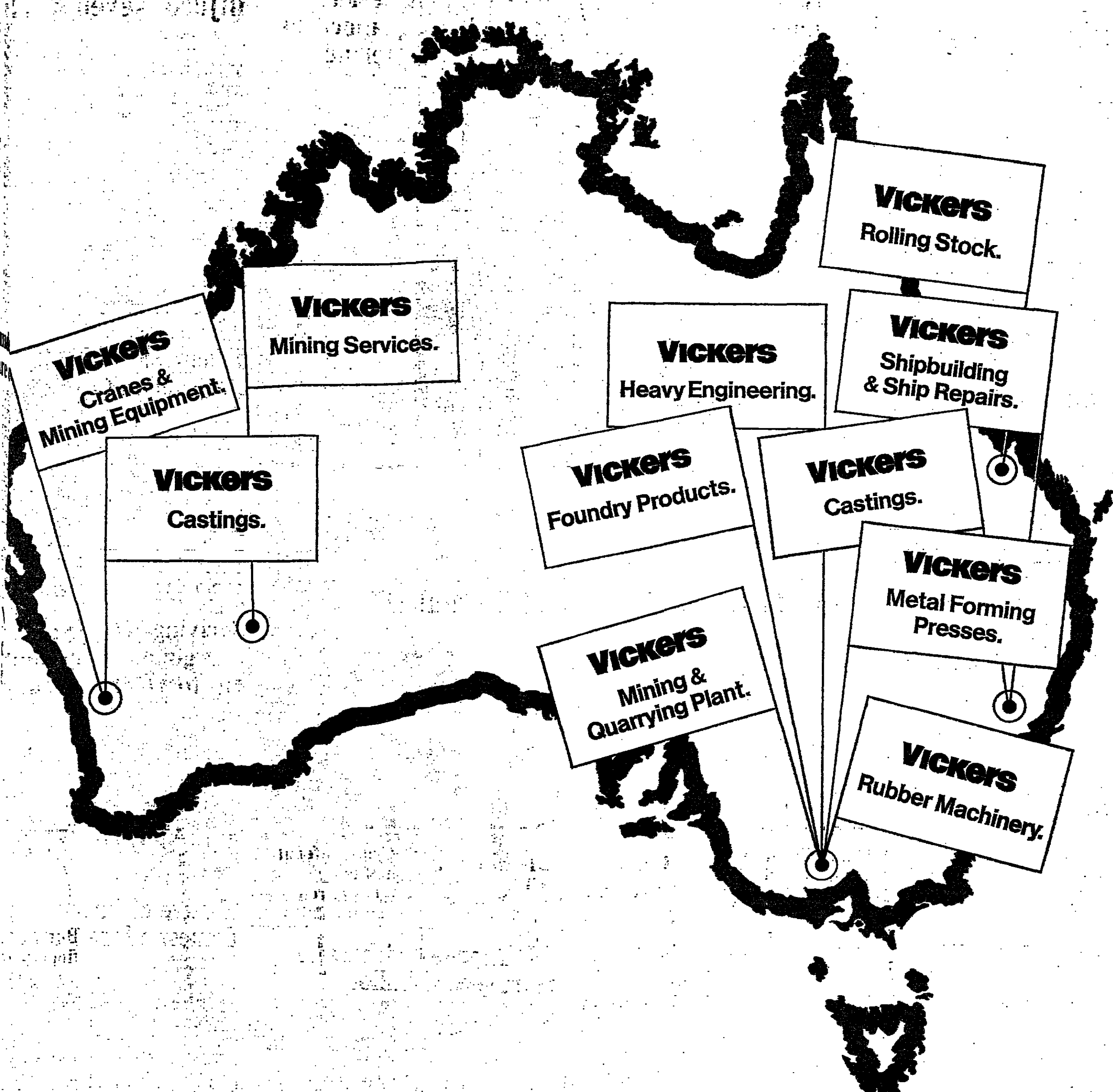
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Submarine  
injures seven

Women lose  
decision on fare

Driving test  
fee going  
up to £6.75



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## Vickers

Expansion from strength

## HOME NEWS

# Junior doctors seek to veto Goodman proposals on pay beds

By John Roper

Medical Reporters  
If the result of the hospital consultants' ballot, expected on February 12, favours the compromise proposals framed by Lord Goodman, junior hospital doctors will seek to veto it and call a special representative meeting of the British Medical Association, one of the juniors' leaders said yesterday.

Dr Martin Baylis, deputy chairman of the Hospital Junior Staffs Committee, said that feeling among the 19,000 juniors against the Government's plans to separate private practice from the National Health Service was as high as it had been over their new contract.

"There is no room for compromise, and the Goodman proposals are unacceptable to us," he said. "We believe the Government's plans are a first step towards a salary cap and a state monopoly."

Dr Baylis said the leadership was sure it represented the feelings of most junior doctors on this issue.

The present committee was elected when its predecessor was accused of being out of touch with the general view of results of negotiations on the new contract.

Areas that were the least militant over the contract issue were now extremely concerned about private practice, Dr Baylis said. There was talk of industrial action, including one-day strikes.

Representatives of about a thousand junior doctors in the South-west, including Bristol, Truro, Plymouth, Barnstaple, Exeter and Taunton delivered a letter to the Prime Minister yesterday, asking him to refer the private practice issue to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service. Later they lobbied their MPs, including Dr Owen, Minister of State for Health and member for Plymouth, Sutton.

The juniors' action caused minor disruptions in hospital services in the region. Mr I. G. Kidson, chairman of the area health authority, said the Hospital Junior Staffs Committee, said there was no question of putting emergency or urgent cases at risk.

The letter to Mr Wilson stated that the Government's intention to alter the structure of the National Health Service without waiting a short time for the report of the royal commission confirmed the juniors' fear that "you are less concerned with the well-being of the patient than with party political dogma."

The delay would be insignificant in comparison with the 27 years since the service was set up, the letter said. They looked forward to hearing that Mr Wilson was not afraid to allow independent scrutiny of his policy.

The juniors' protest coincides with the arrival at BMA House of the last votes in the ballot of the 11,000 consultants on whether to accept the compromise proposals or to resist them.

The BMA has declined to disclose how many ballot papers have been received, but it is understood that the poll is not a heavy one.

# More facts sought over coal prices

By Ronald Enlser

Business News Staff  
Further information should be made available to the public about coal prices prevailing in the locality, the Price Commission recommended yesterday.

It says in a report submitted to Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, that the distribution of coal to the public is an industry in which prices vary considerably between regions and between local traders. Consequently the more information available to the public the more pressure will be brought to bear on retailers whose profit margins are above average.

Sir Arthur Cockfield, the commission's chairman, says in the introduction to the report that profit margins in general are in line with those found in other sectors of retailing. However, there were market imperfections and the trade should consider what might best be done to lessen differences in profit between traders and to allow customers to benefit from lower prices.

Despite the finding that the average retail price of a given fuel can vary by as much as 60 per cent between parts of the country, the report says it has found evidence in some areas of traders agreeing the prevailing price, if only informally. It recommends the ending of that practice and has written to every coal merchant taking part in the investigation pointing out the potential illegality of such agreements.

The Office of Fair Trading said last night that it had noted the commission's findings and was telling local associations of coal merchants that it is illegal to operate informal price-fixing agreements unless they are registered under the terms of the Restrictive Trades Practices Act.

The commission, which is to continue to monitor coal prices, was asked to investigate after sharp increases early last year. It reports that on average the retail price may have risen by as much as half in the year from October 1974.

It found that prices were relatively high in Reading (£32 a ton domestic coal), Plymouth (£29), Exeter (£28), and London (£26). "Lower domestic coal prices were found in Newcastle and Nottingham (£20), Birmingham (£23), Brighton and Edinburgh (£24), Cardiff (£22) and Liverpool (£21).

The Coal Merchants' Federation of Great Britain said last night that it had no complaints about the report and that it accepted the recommendations. It added that the commission had found evidence of informal collusion on prices in only a few areas and that the practice should be stopped.

"Prices and Margins in the Distribution of Coal and Solid Domestic Fuels for Domestic Consumption (Price Commission report No 12, Stationery Office, 65p).

# Sonar may have charms to arouse savage beast

# Electronics firm plans a 'sound' trap for Loch Ness monster

By a Staff Reporter

A new angle to the Loch Ness monster, if such an inclination is available in three-dimensional geometry, has been discovered.

A British electronics company yesterday claimed to have measured a large, unexplained eddy in Loch Ness with "electro-acoustic" high-frequency sound waves. It plans to capture the monster by steering it into a trap by stimulating it sexually with high-frequency signals.

The equipment was designed by Videomaster Ltd, a company known until now for its television games in which the players hit or miss an electronic ball moving backwards and forwards on a screen.

To test its products the company developed equipment to scan the ultra-high-frequency output from complete circuits. It discovered by accident that at certain levels this equipment had an attractive or repulsive effect on the office dog, an Alesian called Petra, which was produced in evidence at yesterday's press conference.

Wishing to test the equipment to a different density, the company found that it had an effect on the fish in a home aquarium. The name Loch Ness occurred to somebody, and officials of the company looked at one another in a wild surmise. Last August they spent £45,000

to dispatch a secret mission to the loch, in the disinterested pursuit of monstrous zoology, and in the hope of the free publicity attached to any such expedition.

Results were at once spectacular. The first time the equipment was tested in the loch it produced a large reading of eels, and shoals of eels were seen to be attracted to it. Mr Bryan King, director of the expedition, beamed Beethoven's Fifth Symphony into a river and attracted shoals of roach to the surface. Elvis Presley, however, was found to have a deterrent effect.

Since then the loch has been scanned by 14 separate instruments taking cross-readings on each other, and testing different frequencies. Then on January 18 they struck Moby Dick. The instruments recorded a body at least 25ft long 50ft down. The company's technicians were still working on the results yesterday, trying to ascertain whether they indicate that the body was moving or showed other signs of animation.

But they issued "visual graph print-outs" of a tracing needle suddenly registering some impressive object. The graph was less impressive than it might have been, having no coordinates or other detail of what it was measuring, just a monstrous squiggle.

The company has invited all

parties interested in the Loch Ness monster to a seminar in Brighton on Friday. There, it is promised, the findings will be presented with a more sober scientific precision than was available yesterday.

Mr Cameron Macsween, chairman of the company, who knows when he is tamed in a good thing, has more prodigiously grandiose plans in mind. He said: "We think we can bring Nessie to the surface by our new video-sonar techniques. If this happens, we hope to trap it in a section of the Caledonian Canal, then drain that section."

However, the British Waterways Board, which has its own interest in monsters and myths, has so far refused permission to drain the canal.

Phossorus bones? Bones of an amphibious reptile between 130 and 150 million years old are being transferred from Swindon to the British Museum in London (our Swindon Correspondent writes). The 30ft long Plesiosaurus brachyrodontus was found last April under the foundry of the British Rail works. British Museum experts started packing the bones yesterday.

Mr Harry Roberts, the works manager, said yesterday: "The British Museum has not got a specimen of this kind, and laid first claim, saying it is part of our national heritage."



Sue Horton, the first woman jockey given a permit to race under National Hunt rules, leaving the Jockey Club headquarters yesterday.

# Ratepayers will not foot the bill for land

By Our Planning Reporter

Land bought by local authorities under the Community Land Act will not be allowed to become a charge on the rates. All expenses and interest payments on loans will, if necessary, be met by further borrowing.

These stipulations are made clear in a circular issued to local authorities. The circular avoids any mention of specific limits on borrowing, but insists that no special provisions will be made for councils acquiring their initial "land banks."

Borrowing for land purchase, as for any other purpose, will be secured on the local authority's revenues, although receipts and expenditure will be recorded in a separate land account. It will be subject to government approval each year but authorities will be eligible for loans.

Once a local authority has acquired a surplus on its land account it will be allowed to transfer 30 per cent of the additional revenue to its other accounts. Forty per cent will be payable to the Government, and the remaining 30 per cent will be redistributed among authorities whose accounts are still in deficit.

The practice of requiring councils to finance interest payments out of further borrowing, at a time when their accumulated debt is more than £22,000m, has been widely criticised. But the Government is clearly taking a chance on authorities being able to dispose quickly of their initial purchases profitably, enabling the scheme to become self-financing.

# Three cleared of plotting to aid UVF

Three men accused of conspiring to further by criminal means the Ulster Volunteer Force were freed at the High Court in Glasgow yesterday after Lord Thomson had directed the jury to find them not guilty.

They were Ronald Smith, aged 40, of Forth River Parade, Belfast; George Donnell, aged 30, of Belmont Avenue, Bangor, Co Down; and Hugh Craig, aged 27, of Ledmore Drive, Drumchapel, Glasgow.

Lord Thomson also directed the jury to find Ronald Paterson, aged 29, of St Mungo Place, Townhead; Andrew Wotherson, aged 24, of Viewpoint Road, Springburn; and Thomas Youdale, aged 20, of Edgemoor Road, Springburn, all Glasgow, not guilty of the conspiracy charge. They remained in the dock, to face explosives charges.

# In brief

## No bail for girl in Herrema case

Marion Coyle, one of the defendants in the Herrema case in the Republic of Ireland, failed to get bail yesterday at the High Court in Dublin. Scamius Scamius, her lawyer said, would be prepared to stand a "huge and risky" amount.

## Bank loses claim for repayment

An action by the Midland Bank for repayment of £36,000 overdraft granted to Mr Michael Dumas, a former property speculator, of St. Stead, Surrey, was dismissed by Mr Justice Canavan in the High Court yesterday.

He ruled that the bank's claim for repayment of the overdraft was barred by the Limitation Act, which requires claims to be made within six years of the date when the claim arose.

## Injured man moved

Michael Ireland, aged 22, is in custody accused of murder of Susan Giles, aged 19, of Northampton, was transferred yesterday from Brixton Prison to a hospital where there are better facilities. He has two broken ankles and back injuries at a fall.

## £48,000 castle grant

Fife Regional Council yesterday approved a £48,000 grant towards the renovation of Balmoral Castle, described by William Hamilton, MP for Fife, Central, as a derelict house. It dates from the 16th century.

## £100 for visit

Glasgow district council accepted £100 from the National General Mutual Life Assurance Company towards the cost of a visit by 35 schoolchildren from Worthing, Sussex, to have completed a written project on the city.

## Classrooms burnt out

Children and teachers when fire destroyed five primary classrooms at Farnwick, Park, secondary school, Canvey Island, yesterday. Men from all over south Essex attended.

## General rate rise

Northumberland County Council's policy and reasons committee yesterday recommended a general rate rise for 1976-77 of 8p, or 8 per cent, more than the present rate.

## Woman of 107 dies

Mrs Alice Crowther, of Britain's oldest women, died in a nursing home, Weston-super-Mare, aged 107.

# Twelve airlines apply for domestic fare increases

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent  
Applications for increases in domestic air fares ranging from 5 to 30 per cent were made to the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday by 12 British airlines. The airlines asked that the new rates should apply from April 1. Domestic air fares were last increased on November 1, by 10 to 15 per cent.

Trunk-route services between London and Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Prestwick are not affected by the applications, as the airlines are still awaiting a decision by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, on an appeal against an earlier decision by the aviation authority to allow a discount on flights from Gatwick.

The largest increase, 30 per cent, is being sought on the

Newquay-Isles of Scilly route. The airlines want 5 per cent more between London and Newquay, 7 per cent between London and Newcastle, and 20 per cent on services to the Isles.

If the applications are accepted by the authority, passengers to the Channel Islands will have to pay an additional £2 fare from London, £1.50 from Manchester and Liverpool, £1.30 from Birmingham, and £1.00 from Glasgow. There would be an additional £1 single fare on routes to Isle of Man, and £2 on fares.

On the Edinburgh-Glasgow route, the airlines would want £14.00; between Southampton and Belfast it would rise £23.70 to £26.70; and between Coventry and Jersey £18.60 to £20.60.

# Miners extend deadline for national overtime ban

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The National Coal Board expects to break even this year, despite stagnant productivity in the pits and reduced reliance on government grants and subsidies. That was the message given to miners' leaders yesterday.

The National Union of Mineworkers extended its deadline for a decision on opening up a new seam at Langwith colliery in Derbyshire, which is threatened with closure, after hearing that the coal board could not give a verdict on the miners' demand for the exploitation of reserves at the pit in the five days given by the union last week.

The miners have threatened a national overtime ban if the coal board does not drive two new headings to tap the 2ft 10in seam, which the NCB says is uneconomic and unworkable because of dust.

The threat of industrial

action has receded until the NUM executive meets on February 12. The overtime ban has been threatened because the miners fear the coal board's refusal to exploit the seam is the beginning of a new pit closure programme.

At yesterday's talks between the NUM executive and the coal board, the NCB said production this year would be 13,500,000 tons—well short of the original target of 120 million tons, and a million tons less than 1974-75. Productivity is marginally down on last year at about 45cwt output a manshift overall.

From those figures it is clear that the coal board's productivity drive, begun in September last year, aimed at improving output by 5 per cent to 46cwt a manshift overall, has been a failure.

The miners were also warned that coal stocks now standing at a record 28,500,000 million tons will grow this year.

# Treasury to pay 'rates' on royal palaces

The Treasury has agreed to pay a contribution in lieu of rates for Buckingham Palace and St James's Palace from next April. The contribution will be paid to Westminster City Council, which put forward the idea last year.

The council has received a letter from the Treasury Valuer, confirming that there will be a payment for the two royal properties, although an exact figure has not yet been worked out.

Payment has never before been made on property occupied by the reigning monarch, although from 1869 a "bounty" payment for lighting, paving and watching was made, believed to be policing, was made. When the scheme was abolished in 1962 the annual levy stood at £1,246 15s 4d.

# Colleges urged to get more science students

Priorities should be given to recruiting teachers to courses in mathematics and science, the Department of Education and Science says in a letter to training colleges and local education authorities.

Other priority subjects are: French, business studies, handicrafts, physics, religious education, home economics, and courses for teaching backward and mentally handicapped children. They are known as shortage subjects because of a drop of applications for them from students.

The letter says the student staff ratio in colleges should be about one teacher to 10 or 11 students. The contribution to larger teaching groups in well-supported subjects might be necessary to allow smaller groups in subjects to which recruitment is difficult.

# Whitehouse fight to keep religion in schools

By a Staff Reporter

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, general secretary of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association, opened a campaign yesterday to forestall any attempt to abolish statutory requirements covering religious education in schools.

Petition forms are to be distributed throughout the country, on which signatories are asked to declare: "I support a daily act of worship and religious education in schools."

"I am against political philosophies such as communism and fascism being taught to children as alternatives to Christianity in religious education lessons."

The campaign, whose committee includes Mr Raymond Johnston, director of the Festival of Light, is directed in particular against a draft private member's Bill sponsored by the British Humanist Association, which seeks to replace the requirement in the 1944 Education Act for "religious instruction" with lessons in a range of religious and non-religious "stances for living."

Mrs Whitehouse said: "There is no doubt that the pressure to remove religious education from schools has great political implications. Its effects can be subversive."

He cited a recent incident in his own centre when a boy of 15, 6ft tall and weighing more than 13 stone, attacked three staff members, smashed a bed-room, split a door frame with his bare hands and assaulted another boy so seriously that the injuries needed hospital treatment.

Secure accommodation had a place in treatment of young people. Yet the present system was one of "organized chaos".

"The concept of meeting a child's needs in the most appropriate setting is frequently considered secondary to the administrative convenience of filling a vacancy," he declared.

Father Dooley has pleaded not guilty to indecently assaulting Miss Janet Bradbury, of Old Road, Barlinton, Stoke-on-Trent.

Father Dooley said he had made the appalling daily tally of killings and maimings which goes on unceasingly would end.

Earlier, Mr Robert Barber disclosed that he had driven the

# Mr Thornett withdraws from second ballot

Mr Alan Thornett, the Cowley shop steward known as "the Mole", has withdrawn from the second ballot to elect the Oxford area representative on the Midlands regional committee of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

A second ballot was ordered after complaints from Oxford about the results of three union elections, including Mr Thornett's defeat by a moderate, Mr Jack Adams, the union's senior shop steward at the MG Works at Abingdon.

Mr Thornett said he could not accept the committee's refusal to hold an inquiry when a glance at the figures raised serious doubts. Two branches in

Oxford, including his own, had asked how candidates supported by branch officers of the Cowley car body plant received thousands of votes when it was known that only a few hundred were cast.

Mr Brian Mathers, the regional secretary, said that as the ballot papers had been destroyed it was impossible to prove or disprove certain allegations. The committee thought the fairest thing would be a fresh ballot.

The ballot papers had been kept for a month, in line with union rules, then destroyed, although the committee had asked the scrutineers to keep them for three months.

# Priest says he was told to admit assault

A Roman Catholic priest said at Stafford Crown Court yesterday that a policeman tried to make him confess to indecent assault on a student nurse, aged 19, on a long-distance coach journey.

The Rev Christopher Dooley, aged 55, of Compton, Leamington, said: "I shall never forget that part of the interview. He told me there is a God above who judges us all. The best thing you can do is to come clean or own up. People come to you to confess and you tell them to make a clean breast, so now do what I tell you."

Father Dooley has pleaded not guilty to indecently assaulting Miss Janet Bradbury, of Old Road, Barlinton, Stoke-on-Trent.

Father Dooley said he had made the appalling daily tally of killings and maimings which goes on unceasingly would end.

Earlier, Mr Robert Barber disclosed that he had driven the

# Five years for driver of explosives car

James Kelly, aged 27, described as an IRA courier, was sentenced to five years for his part in a plot to smuggle ammunition and explosives from the United States to Northern Ireland.

Mr Kelly, a father of three children, of Belfast, was convicted on Monday of conspiring to contravene the Firearms and Explosives Acts. Robert O'Rourke, aged 30, of Earl Street, Belfast, was acquitted on Monday night on similar charges.

Mr Justice Ackner said Mr Kelly had not been the ring-leader of the plan to smuggle the explosives in a hired car nor had he been involved in the entry to Southampton of the explosives and ammunition.

But he added: "Without people like you prepared to smuggle explosives, arms and ammunition into Northern Ireland, the appalling daily tally of killings and maimings which goes on unceasingly would end."

Earlier, Mr Robert Barber disclosed that he had driven the



James Kelly: Driver of "a bomb on wheels".

the car from a garage at Ingham in June, 1974, from Hertz and was taken out by Heathrow airport, don, in 1974. A senior police said: "The car was a bomb on wheels."

Mr Kelly, a courier from Belfast, but not the who hired the car, was Southampton to go to Stranraer-Larne ferry.

Using hired cars with explosives was a method of transport by Provisional IRA. By however, Mr Kelly was He was questioned in a police search and his cover "blown". He was £40 for taking the car to the owner's consent.

The real purpose of the journey was not clear. The police made only a search of the car. It returned to Hertz and explosives still hidden inside. Two years the car was used in the 1976 IRA 163K went to Mr Barber.

# Children described as 'deprived as well as deprived'

From Our Correspondent

Llandudno  
Theorists and academics should recognize that there are deprived as well as deprived children, Mr George Jensen said yesterday in his presidential address at the annual conference of the National Association of Heads and Matrons of Assessment Centres.

He told the 16 delegates, at Llandudno, Gwynedd, that there were youngsters who "prey on society and hate with a degree of venom which is difficult to parallel even in an adult."

Members of his association, he said, dealt with the unhappy, often tragic, victims of

society. Professional practitioners in child-care were subject to enormous pressures. "On the one hand, we must do nothing that has any connotation of punishment, however remote, while, on the other, children should be placed in such circumstances as to protect society."

Ideally such sentences are fine. On a practical basis, however, they are impossible to achieve. Thus we, the practitioners, are open to abuse and criticism whatever course of action we attempt.

"We cannot win, yet we continually strive to do so by offering a service in unenviable circumstances."

Mr Jensen said.

# More bones on beach found

More human bones were uncovered yesterday when the police helped to dig up parts of a mile-long holiday beach at Sand Bay, near Weston-super-Mare, Avon.

"We believe the bones are from two people, a man and a woman. They will be examined by experts at Bristol."

# Potato stocks used up by end of April

Potato stocks left on farms are down to 675,000 tons, the estimated figure. That was little more than a third of the normal stocks for the time of year.

Even though consumption had fallen to about 50,000 tons a week the stock of home-grown potatoes would be used up, at this rate, before the end of April.

The board said part of the shortfall would be met by imports, mainly from Holland. Britain had already bought 172,500 tons from the Dutch this winter. There would also be extra imports of new potatoes.

But there was much competition for supplies from overseas, as the drought conditions that cut the British crop were experienced in varying degrees

by all other European countries. It was impossible therefore to forecast accurately the quantities that would be imported.

The extent of the shortage seems bound to push prices up even above present high levels of 10p to 12p a pound.

British prices are already above the highest in Europe. However, that will have the effect of attracting imports. By May and for most of June Britain will be almost entirely dependent on potatoes imported from the Canaries, Jersey, Spain and Cyprus, and perhaps South Africa.

Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife, Central, said yesterday that there was at least more than a 100 per cent mark-up in price between the potato producer and the shopkeeper. "The middle-men must

be making a considerable rake-off", he said.

In the Commons next week he is to ask Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, to launch an inquiry into the reasons for the price difference.

"Farmers probably do not get fair returns", he said. "The consumer gets a raw deal, and in between other people are getting the rake-off."

Thief fined £100: Andrew Charlton, aged 20, a street trader selling jewelry, was fined £100 at Clerkenwell Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, and told to pay costs of £25. He was charged with stealing four 28lb bags of peeled potatoes worth £14 from British Rail's King's Cross freight terminal.

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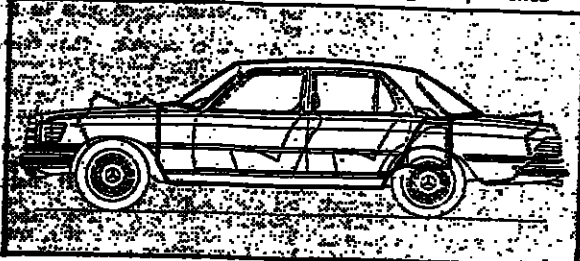
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# How safe is the car you're getting into?

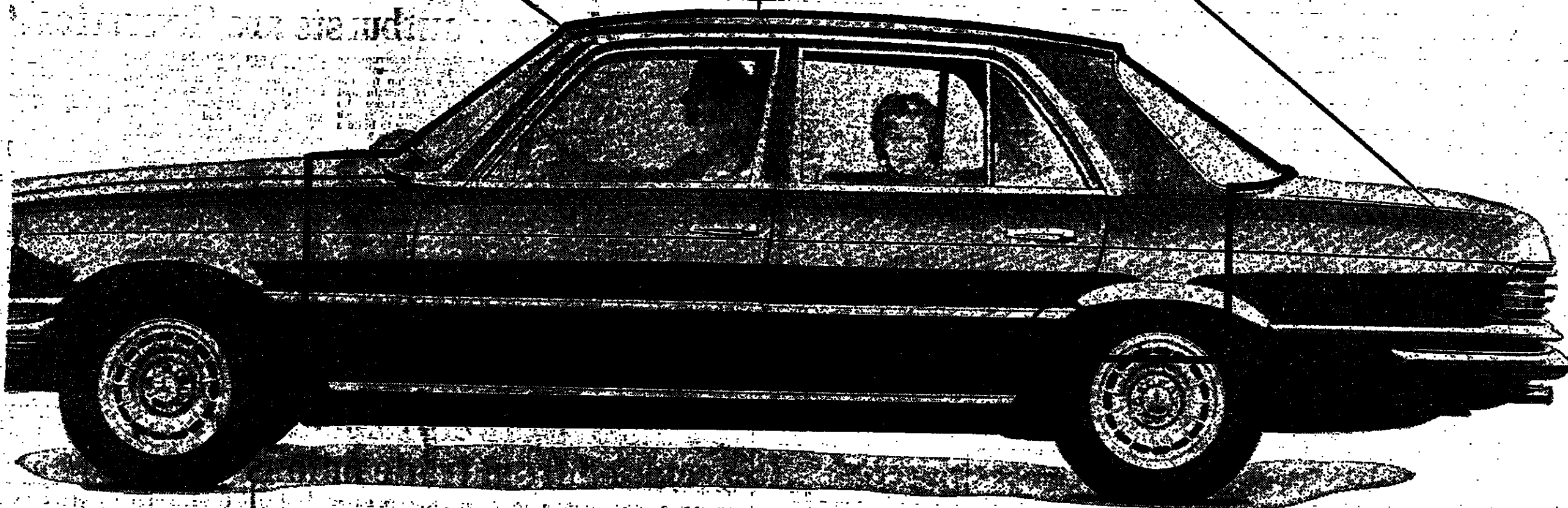
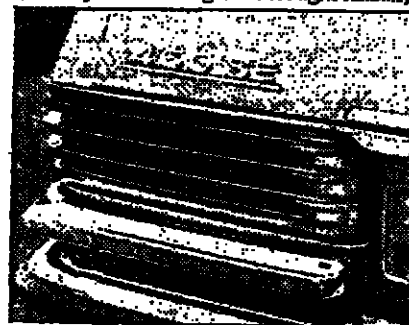
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## EUROPE

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, Baader-Meinhof trial told

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Correspondent

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behind the device so that when  
the woman had planted the  
bomb she could inflate the  
balloon through a tube con-  
cealed in her dress and thus  
still appear pregnant.  
Herr Hoff said he first  
became uneasy when Herr  
Meins produced a sawn-off  
automatic shotgun and asked  
him to convert the magazine to  
take 12 cartridges instead of  
five.  
When he voiced his suspi-  
cions and threatened to go to  
the police, Herr Raspe, and  
Herr Meins threatened him  
with a pistol until he trembled  
with fear. He was forced to  
make several more bomb cas-  
ings and was later told that a  
group called the "Red Army  
Faction" was being formed,  
but there was no plan to carry  
out acts of violence.  
In 1972, he carried out his  
last assignment by making  
several relatively large bomb  
cases about 7in in diameter.  
Two hours after handing these  
over he heard three explosions  
near the American military  
headquarters in Frankfurt.  
The accused—the other  
three are Andreas Baader,  
Ulrike 32, and two women,  
Anke Meinhof, aged 41, and

France tightens screw on tax  
evaders despite protests

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Jan 27  
The Government is to step  
up its campaign against tax  
evaders both by companies and  
individuals, in spite of growing  
protests, especially from  
employers.

French authorities realize  
that President Giscard d'Esta-  
ing's promise to promote social  
justice will lack force if many  
groups are seen to be escaping  
tax. They are therefore deter-  
mined to press ahead, with  
capital gains tax, in spite of its  
unpopularity.  
M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the  
Finance Minister, said yester-  
day that in the past year  
47,000 firms had been sub-  
jected to fiscal controls and  
5,000m francs (about £600m)  
in unpaid taxes (excluding  
penalties) had been recovered  
by the state. Similarly, scrutiny  
of about 12,000 individual tax-  
payers had yielded 500m  
francs. Controls carried out  
purely on the basis of official  
returns had produced a further  
1.8m francs.

Former editor  
jailed in Spain

Madrid, Jan 27.—A political  
court has sentenced a former  
newspaper editor to two years  
in jail for falsifying reports that  
mercenaries had landed in the  
American naval base of Rota  
to be used in an invasion of  
Portugal, legal sources said to-  
day.

Señor Federico Villagrán  
Bustillo, who edited the Seville  
newspaper *Correo de Andalucía*,  
was found guilty of "permit-  
ting the publication of tenden-  
tious news and attempting to  
discredit the authorities of the  
state"—UPI.

## Policemen shot dead

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## Vienna's costly fight for 'UN City'

From Our Correspondent

Vienna, Jan 27  
Vienna's "UN City", the new  
building complex, providing  
offices for 4,500 officials, con-  
tinues to be a source of dis-  
agreement between Switzerland  
and Austria, the two neutral  
Central European states.

The proposal for the residing  
of United Nations officials came  
up at the last session of the  
General Assembly. It was  
decided that with 17,000 square  
yards of office space and a tech-  
nical accommodation becoming  
available in Vienna by 1980, the  
United Nations would occupy  
space in the new building as  
soon as possible and cease  
renting private office space in  
New York and Geneva.

In the past two years alone  
the United Nations has paid out  
\$40m (£20m) in Geneva for  
extra office space. Not sur-  
prisingly, Geneva feels itself  
menaced by the Vienna UN  
City and succeeded in persuad-  
ing the Swiss Government,  
which is not a member of the  
United Nations, to act on its  
behalf.  
The Swiss tried to use the  
Yugoslavs as their spokesmen

in New York but found them  
unwilling to argue in the  
General Assembly against using  
the Vienna accommodation as  
fully as possible, partly because  
Yugoslavia's relations with  
Austria are improving, and  
because the whole of Eastern  
Europe is pleased to see a size-  
able part of the United Nations  
organization moving close to its  
western borders.  
The Swiss attempts to pre-  
vent, or at least delay, the  
relocation of United Nations  
officials have cast a shadow over  
the usually excellent relations  
between Vienna and Bern.  
The Austrian Government  
regards the Swiss as having  
moved stealthily against Vienna,  
while the Swiss unofficially  
accuse the Austrians of shifting  
their stand on their UN City.  
This is not altogether  
Austria's fault. The Inter-  
national Atomic Energy Agency  
and the United Nations Indus-  
trial Development Organization,  
both housed already in Vienna,  
grossly overestimated their  
requirements for housing in the  
UN City, claiming a room for  
7,000 officials and then reduc-  
ing the estimate to 2,500. The  
bewildered Austrians decided,

Call to speed up incomes  
policy for Portugal

From Our Own Correspondent

Lisbon, Jan 27  
The military Council of the  
Revolution, Portugal's highest  
political body, today indicated  
its anxiety over the effects of  
the economic situation on the  
civilian population.

In a communiqué after its  
regular weekly all-night session,  
the council called on the  
military-led three-party Govern-  
ment to speed up the introduc-  
tion of an incomes policy which  
would correct social inequali-  
ties, and to protect old age  
pensioners from the impact of  
austerity measures.  
The council also said it had  
taken action, which it did not  
specify, to resolve the dispute  
over control of the Socialist

Former editor  
jailed in Spain

Madrid, Jan 27.—A political  
court has sentenced a former  
newspaper editor to two years  
in jail for falsifying reports that  
mercenaries had landed in the  
American naval base of Rota  
to be used in an invasion of  
Portugal, legal sources said to-  
day.

Señor Federico Villagrán  
Bustillo, who edited the Seville  
newspaper *Correo de Andalucía*,  
was found guilty of "permit-  
ting the publication of tenden-  
tious news and attempting to  
discredit the authorities of the  
state"—UPI.

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which is not a member of the  
United Nations, to act on its  
behalf.  
The Swiss tried to use the  
Yugoslavs as their spokesmen

China wants  
to discuss  
trade pact  
with EEC

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, Jan 27  
China has indicated that it  
intends to send an official dele-  
gation to Brussels in the next  
few months to open preliminary  
talks on a trade agreement with  
the EEC, sources close to the  
European Commission dis-  
closed today.

This is a logical next step in  
the development of Sino-EEC  
relations. China became the  
first state-trading country  
(apart from Yugoslavia) to re-  
cognize the Community last  
September when Mr Li Lian-  
ping was accredited as Peking's am-  
bassador to the EEC.

The Chinese expressed inter-  
est in a trade agreement when  
Sir Christopher Soames, the  
commissioner for External  
Affairs, visited Peking last May.  
Since then there have been fur-  
ther contacts between EEC  
officials and members of the  
Chinese mission in Brussels.

Chinese interest in a trade  
agreement is seen in Brussels  
as more political than economic,  
reflecting Peking's view of the  
EEC as a strategic intermediate  
zone of industrial capitalist  
states seeking their independ-  
ence from the "hegemony" of  
the two superpowers.

China's eschewal of cultivation  
of relations with the EEC is in  
marked contrast to the Soviet  
Union's reluctance even to re-  
cognize the existence of the  
Community, an attitude which  
has bedevilled relations be-  
tween the EEC and Comecon,  
the Soviet-dominated East Euro-  
pean economic block.

The first exploratory contacts  
between the EEC and Comecon  
took place in Moscow nearly a  
year ago. An invitation to  
Comecon to continue the dis-  
cussions in Brussels has never  
been taken up, though there  
are some signs that a reply  
may at last be in preparation.  
Romania is so interested in  
Comecon country in a trade agree-  
ment with the EEC as a whole,  
said has already agreed to enter  
into negotiations on a textile  
accord with the Community.

The agreement envisaged by  
the EEC with China would in-  
clude a "most favoured nation"  
clause and provide for the pro-  
gressive removal of remaining  
barriers to trade. The Chinese,  
however, are not interested in  
industrial cooperation.

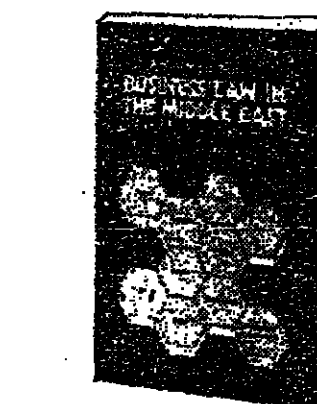
According to figures supplied  
by the European Commission,  
China at the end of 1973  
accounted for less than 1 per  
cent of the EEC's total trade.  
The Community, on the other  
hand, was China's third largest  
trading partner.

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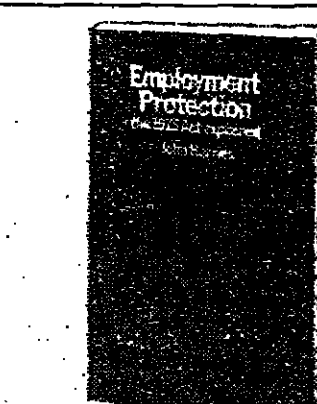
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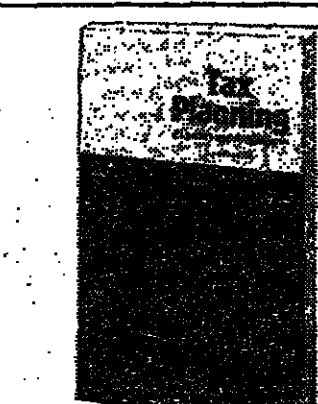
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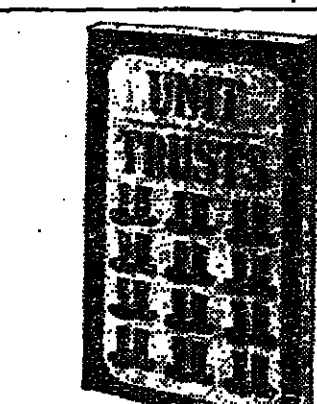
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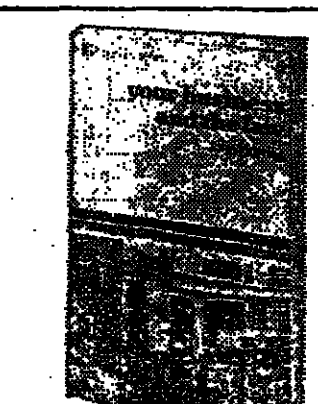
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## OVERSEAS

# Arabs regard outcome of debate in Security Council as a victory despite American veto

From Peter Stafford  
New York, Jan 27

After two weeks of discussion, the United Nations Security Council last night ended its debate on the Middle East with an American veto. The veto had been expected, however, and in spite of their criticism of the American action, most of the Arabs appeared to feel that they had made some gains during the debate.

Mr. Mowaffak Akkar, the Syrian representative, described the vote as a landmark in the handling of the Middle East question. Although the draft resolution had not been adopted, it had won the support of the majority of the council. "Morally, the resolution has been adopted," he declared.

On their side, the Americans were making every effort to avoid embarrassing the situation further. In a statement after the vote last night, Mr. Daniel Moynihan, the American representative, said that the American veto had not been based on "antipathy to the aspirations of Palestinians," but rather on the conviction that the resolution would not help them.

"Many, we know, will be disappointed that we do not have a resolution to use and refer to, but for our part let me say that we have more than less profited from the various views that have been expressed, and we have increased our understanding of the enormous complexities before us."

The veto was the thirteenth cast by the Americans, and their fourth on a resolution on the Middle East. They were the only member of the Council to vote against the resolution, which was supported by nine members. Britain, Italy and Sweden abstained, while China and Libya decided not to take part in the vote because they felt the resolution was too favourable to Israel.

The main points in the draft resolution, and the ones to which the Americans particularly objected, were its support for the inalienable national right of self-determination of the Palestinians, including the right to establish an independent state in Palestine, and its call for an Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories.

These were balanced by a reference to the right of all states in the area to live "within secure and recognized boundaries," in a gesture to the Arab position. But this was not enough for the Americans, and too much for China and Libya.

Underlying the whole debate was the question whether the PLO delegation, led by Yasser Arafat, had national rights. The worst fear, expressed last night by Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General, is that lack of movement in the Middle East could lead to new outbreaks of violence. Leading article, page 15

The issue was crystallized by a British amendment which was introduced at the last moment and caused a diplomatic flurry. The amendment would simply have stated that nothing in the new resolution would supersede Resolutions 242 and 338. After this had been rejected both Sweden and Italy, which had been expected to support the resolution, decided to abstain.

The Arabs were not grateful to Britain for bringing the issue out into the open in this way, and reducing the support for the resolution, and Britain was sharply criticized in later speeches.

The main question now is what effect the debate, and the vetoed resolution, will have on the Middle East situation. In a statement last night, Israel, which has been boycotting the debate, called for a resumption of the Geneva peace conference, and so did the State Department in Washington. But there are bound to be difficulties over the role of the PLO, which has been expected to take part.

After the vote, Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi, the leader of the PLO delegation, said the Palestinians had national rights. The worst fear, expressed last night by Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General, is that lack of movement in the Middle East could lead to new outbreaks of violence.

Leading article, page 15

Explaining the veto seemed to be seeking to mollify the Arabs by conceding that views expressed in the debate had widened the United States view of the problem and could help the search for peace. This sounded like a tribute to Arab moderation, which finds no echo in Jerusalem.

Cairo, Jan 27.—A senior Egyptian Government official said today that the United States position on the Palestinian issue had become "not only isolated but also untenable."

In the same breath, the official blamed "theatrical" overblowing by Syria and the PLO for the failure of the Security Council to act on the Middle East crisis yesterday.

The official, who preferred to be anonymous, said this time the United States "is isolated from Western Europe because Italy, Sweden, France and Britain, regarding the way they voted, put on record during the debate their support of Palestinian national rights."

In a clear reference to Syrian and PLO tactics at the Security Council, the official said: "The Arabs should learn that effective and wise steps constitute the best policy they can adopt. Those of them who propose more theatrical steps tend to hand the initiative to the PLO, which since the adjournment of the proceedings at Geneva has been chosen by the Arab states as sole representatives of the Palestinians and has been given recognition by the United Nations."

There are private fears in Jerusalem that in spite of its veto the United States will redouble its efforts to persuade Israel to modify its refusal to talk with the PLO. The American delegate's speech

Reaffirming the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territories by the threat or use of force.

Reaffirming further the necessity of the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region based on full respect for the Charter of the United Nations as well as for its resolutions concerning the problem of the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, in accordance with its Resolution 301 (1975) of November 30, 1975.

Having heard the representatives of parties concerned, the Palestine Liberation Organization, representative of the Palestinian people, Convicted that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East, Expressing its concern over the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, and deeply deploring Israel's persistence in its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and its refusal to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions,

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The flight that failed. A family's cherished possessions strewn across the roadway after their lorry was overtaken by the tide of war somewhere in Angola.

## Renewed fighting between allied anti-MPLA movements

From Our Correspondent  
Lusaka, Jan 27

Renewed fighting broke out early today between the two allied anti-communist movements in Angola, the FNLA and Unita. Once again the battle ground was the outskirts of Huambo (Nova Lisboa), the two movements' joint capital. Mortars and machine guns were used.

The fighting almost certainly marks the end of their alliance. It has been an uneasy pact since they combined last August to fight the communist-backed MPLA and there have been periodic outbreaks of fighting between the two, including a two-day battle in and around Huambo which ended on Christmas Day with at least 60 dead.

After that battle the FNLA moved their forces out of the town and there has since been an uneasy peace.

However, there has been growing resentment within Unita in the past few days because the FNLA forces pulled out of the coastal town of Novo Redondo without a fight when the MPLA launched an attack. Unita forces were moved in

and the movement still disputes the MPLA claim that the town has been taken.

This means that Unita no longer have any faith in the FNLA forces in the southern half of Angola, and as the FNLA has been largely annihilated in the north by the Russian and Cuban-backed MPLA, it seems unlikely that it will take any significant part in the civil war in future.

There seems to be no truth in speculation by journalists leaving Huambo as the fighting broke out, that the MPLA had got within striking distance of the city. Logically it would seem most unlikely that the MPLA forces could have traversed the 100 miles between the mid-Angolan town of Ceia, from which Unita made a tactical withdrawal last week, in sufficient strength to attack Huambo.

The main question remaining now is what South Africa will do: whether the statement yesterday by the Government that South African troops will remain in Angola, means they will be protecting only the South African-financed dams in

the south of the country or whether they will be taking an active part in the battle.

It seems clear that without South African assistance, Unita will find it impossible to withstand the advance of the better armed MPLA and would have to resort to guerrilla warfare and leave the strategically important towns. Should that happen it is also obvious that the MPLA will continue their progress south and eventually come up against the South African forces in the Cunene dam area.

So it is thought more likely in diplomatic circles here that South Africa will take the initiative and meet the advancing MPLA before they get much farther south.

A sudden ban by Unita on all foreign journalists going into its territory, it is thought, may herald a new initiative by South Africa. It would seem logical to keep journalists away while South African troops move into the area.

Havana, Jan 27.—The Cuban Government took its people officially for the first time today that Cuban troops were fighting in Angola.—Reuters.

## Luanda launches attack on Reuters

From Nicholas Ashford  
Luanda, Jan 27

The Leftist Popular Movement (MPLA) appears to have added Reuters news agency to its rogues' gallery of people and organizations which it loves to hate. The agency has now been placed in the same company as the leaders of the two rival nationalist movements, Mr. Holden Roberto (FNLA) and Dr. Jonas Savimbi (Unita), as well as President Mobutu, in a disparate set of relations for anyone to have.

Reuters correspondent in Luanda was asked to leave the country at the end of last year and the agency no longer has a representative here. In Johannesburg office, meanwhile, Luanda radio while the Lusaka correspondent, Mr. Fred Bridgland (denounced in Saturday's paper as being pro-Unita), has provided extensive coverage from the MPLA Army controlled parts of the country.

paper *Jornal de Angola* said that Reuters was continuing to report South Africa's "pseudo-withdrawal" because of this the paper had decided to describe the agency's "lie" as a "retardation" — a play on the Portuguese word for withdrawal (*retirada*).

It went on to describe the agency as "the god-daughter of Vorster, the daughter of Kissinger and the cousin of Holden, Savimbi, Chipenda and Mobutu" — a disparate set of relations for anyone to have.

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Luanda radio claimed today that South African forces, far from being withdrawn, were in fact being reinforced in southern Angola. It warned the people of Angola and MPLA to take statements of a withdrawal "with a pinch of salt."

The South African regime, the radio went on, only recognized the rule of the barrel of a gun. The struggle was not left until the last imperialist left Angola.

Meanwhile the population of Luanda has been treated to its first super-sonic bang from an aircraft belonging to the newly-created Angolan People's Air Force (FAPLA). Yesterday evening MIG-17 swooped low over the city, causing buildings to shake and providing final confirmation that the MPLA has jet aircraft at its disposal. So far aircraft have not been seriously involved in the fighting on either side.

## Ex-politician confirmed by Senate as CIA director

Washington, Jan 27.—The Senate today confirmed Mr. George Bush as director of the Central Intelligence Agency by 64 votes to 27, with one member abstaining. He will succeed Mr. William Colby.

Members opposed to Mr. Bush's appointment objected because of his political background, arguing that the agency needed a non-political leader.

Mr. Bush was chairman of the Republican Party national committee during President Nixon's Administration and served as a member of Congress from Texas. He was head of the United States Liaison mission in Peking when named by President Ford for the CIA post.

## Shostakovich film score found in archives

Moscow, Jan 27.—A film music score written by Dmitri Shostakovich has been found in the archives of the Lenin Library in Moscow after lying unnoticed there for nearly 50 years, *Pravda* reported today.

Shostakovich, who died last year, wrote the score in 1928 but it was abandoned because the musicians found it too demanding, the newspaper said.

## Tidal-wave sinks navy patrol boat

Jakarta, Jan 27.—A tidal wave sank an Indonesian Navy patrol boat in the Java sea and 14 of the 21-man crew drowned, it was officially announced today.—Reuters.

## Moroccans in Sahara battle with Algerians

From Victoria Britain  
Algiers, Jan 27

Heavy fighting between Moroccan and Algerian forces was reported today from Western Sahara, the territory which is being taken over by Morocco and Mauritania under an agreement with Spain.

The official Algerian news agency APS said Moroccan troops this morning attacked an Algerian Army unit taking food and medicines to refugee camps in the Polisario Front, the movement seeking independence for the territory. This was the first report of Algerian forces crossing the border.

Today's engagement took place near the Mauritanian border north of Guelma and south of the area where the Moroccan Air Force lost an F5 fighter supporting Mauritanian forces in a battle last week. There has been no Algerian or Polisario Front comment on a report from Morocco that the aircraft was shot down by a Russian-made Sam 6 missile.

The Polisario Front has only machine guns for air defence. The Front claims to have hit Moroccan C130 and to have brought down two Fouga aircraft and a helicopter as well as the FS.

A huge increase in the use of Moroccan air power in the undeclared war during the past week is reported by Front sources in Algiers. They say that the Moroccans have bombed the refugee camps in the border area where about 40,000 to 50,000 women and children are living in tents, as well as targets outside the coastal towns and near the phosphate-rich region controlled by Moroccan troops.

In a three-day battle last week the Mauritanian camp of Ain Ben Tazi fell to the Polisario Front after 152 Mauritanian soldiers had been killed. Thirty-seven Mauritanian prisoners were taken and their names were released today by APS.

The extent of material support from Algeria for the Polisario Front is not made explicit. Front is said to be supported also by Libya. The Algerian press and radio daily report donations for the movement made by factories, village cooperatives and union organizations throughout Algeria. Many people have given a day's pay.

Travel permits for diplomats wanting to drive south or west of Algiers are being refused by the authorities.

Algeria has reinforced its military presence along its border with Morocco since Spain agreed to hand its former colony over to a joint Moroccan-Mauritanian administration by February 22.

Rabat, Jan 27.—Algerian troops have penetrated 150 miles into the part of Western Sahara controlled by Morocco, officials said today.

They could not immediately confirm the APS report and heavy fighting between Moroccan and Algerian troops. If true, they said, the Algerian Army's incursion would be considered as a clear-cut case of aggression and a violation of Moroccan sovereignty.—Reuters.

Damascus, Jan 27.—President Boumedienne of Algeria today dismissed the Algerian Ambassador to Morocco by telephone. It was announced by Damascus.—Agence France Presse.

## Beirut bombers clear out British bank

From Paul Martin  
Beirut, Jan 27

Under cover of the civil war, gunmen have stripped and burned the main Beirut branch of the British Bank of the Middle East, blasting open the treasury and safety deposit strongrooms, emptying both.

They made off with cash, cheques and an inestimable amount of valuables in about 500 safety deposit boxes, leaving the bank's £1.2m offices a ruin.

The attack on the British bank, which is in the heart of the contested "Wall Street" district, was one of the worst of its kind in a war that has left thousands of shops, businesses and factories devastated.

An initial estimate of the losses suffered by the bank is £2.2m, but the final figure could be much higher.

It was known that the bank was hit in the pre-dawn spree of looting and destruction last Thursday, but the dynamite of the strongrooms was only discovered when Mr. J. C. Kelly, the manager, inspected the premises.

The two strongrooms were in the basement of the six-year-old offices and were constructed of reinforced concrete. It was left behind in the rubble and twisted metal were papers discarded by the gunmen in their search for valuables. Fortunately the bank's papers were not touched so customers will not be affected," Mr. Kelly said.

In the treasury were stacks of cash, travellers cheques and cheque books for local accounts, all of which were stolen. The gunmen overlooked the bank's cypher which has been recovered. Mr. Kelly said that one of the main worries now was about forgeries on the stolen cheque books.

The strongroom was for rented safety deposit boxes in which money, jewels, gold and other valuables were usually kept. Once the gunmen had blasted their way into this, they had no trouble in forcing open one of the strongrooms and away with loot which could turn out to be in the millions of pounds.

All the bank's offices on other floors were stripped of office equipment, safes and anything of any value. Three other commercial banks, Dunlop, Cory and Hoover, with showrooms in the same building were also stripped, the stolen goods being carted off by the lorryload.

The British Bank of the Middle East is part of the Hongkong and Shanghai group.

## ANC wants Mr Todd free to join Rhodesia talks

From Our Correspondent  
Salisbury, Jan 27

Mr. Joshua Nkomo, leader of the internal wing of the African National Council (ANC), said today he wanted Mr. Garfield Todd, the former Rhodesian Prime Minister, released to join the ANC team in the constitutional talks with Mr. Ian Smith's Government.

Speaking at a news conference in Salisbury, Mr. Nkomo said that Mr. Arthur Chidzanga and Mr. John Chirisa, black nationalist detainees released this morning, would join the team. These detainees were part of the ANC's programme of "quiet diplomacy". The two men and Mr. Todd were wanted for a particular reason.

"We have at last got the two but we have not got Mr. Todd," Mr. Nkomo said. "We have negotiators, advisers and consultants and they will be within Hongkong and Shanghai group. Mr. Nkomo said the ANC programme to obtain the release of detainees was a condition to a certain degree.

He emphasized that although he was not making the release of detainees a condition in the talks, he believed it was essential if an eventual settlement was to be achieved.

Officials said they knew there were more than 500 political prisoners in Rhodesia.

Mr. Chidzanga, who had been detained since February, 1973, and Mr. Chirisa, held since 1974, were officials of the old ANC but are now strongly linked with the Nkomo group.

Asked if Mr. Todd would be released, Mr. Nkomo said: "Chirisa and Todd are the same morning. That's how the wheel moves."

Mr. Todd, aged 67, who has been restricted to his ranch at Shabani in the Rhodesian Midlands for the last four years, is forbidden to communicate with the outside world. But Mrs. Grace Todd, his wife, told me by telephone tonight that she was delighted that the pressure was being put on the Rhodesians to have the detention order lifted. She said her husband was in fine health.

Rhodesian security forces have been on guard since the North eastern border area, suffering three minor casualties, and capturing quantities of arms and equipment, security headquarters said.

An ultimatum from the secessionists demanding payment of \$42.7m (about £7m) in royalties from the copper mine on the island which provides Papua New Guinea with half its revenue expired six days ago. Bougainville was unofficially declared independent on September 1.—UPI and Reuters.

## Full text of resolution on Middle East

From Our Own Correspondent  
New York, Jan 27

Following is the full text of the United Nations Security Council resolution on the Middle East voted last night by the United States.

Having heard the representatives of parties concerned, the Palestine Liberation Organization, representative of the Palestinian people, Convicted that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East, Expressing its concern over the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, and deeply deploring Israel's persistence in its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and its refusal to implement the relevant United Nations resolutions,

Reaffirming the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territories by the threat or use of force.

Reaffirming further the necessity of the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region based on full respect for the Charter of the United Nations as well as for its resolutions concerning the problem of the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, in accordance with its Resolution 301 (1975) of November 30, 1975.

1. Affirms: (a) That the Palestinian people should be enabled to exercise its inalienable national right of self-determination, including the right to establish an independent state in Palestine in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations; (b) The right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbours to do so and the right to receive compensation for their property; (c) That Israel should withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied since June, 1967; (d) That appropriate arrange-

ments should be established to guarantee, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the security, territorial integrity and political independence of all states in the area and their right to live in peace with secure and recognized boundaries;

2. Decides that the provisions contained in Paragraph 1 should be taken fully into account in all international negotiations concerning the organized within the framework of the United Nations for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to take all the necessary steps as soon as possible for the implementation of the provisions of this resolution and to report to the Security Council on the progress achieved;

4. Decides to convene within a period of six months to consider the report by the Secretary-General regarding the implementation of this resolution, and in order to pursue its responsibilities regarding such implementation.

## Pretoria's arms build-up in Namibia attacked at UN

From Our Own Correspondent  
New York, Jan 27

South Africa was sharply criticized at the United Nations Security Council today for its military build-up in Namibia (South-West Africa) and accused of using the territory as a springboard for its incursion into Angola.

The African countries were expected to demand a resolution censuring South African policies in Namibia.

Mr. Moses Garoeb, administrative secretary of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) said that so long as South Africa maintained its illegal occupation of Namibia, there would be strife and instability in the region.

The total and complete militarization of the territory was a new aspect of this occupation, Mr. Garoeb went on. South African troops had been withdrawn from Rhodesia to be redeployed in Namibia.

## Mr Whitlam keeps Labour leadership in Australia

From Our Correspondent  
Melbourne, Jan 27

Mr. Gough Whitlam, the former Prime Minister, today easily retained leadership of the Australian Labour Party. He emerged after a three-way ballot in caucus with a lead of 22 votes over his nearest rival, Mr. Lionel Bowen, former Minister for Manufacturing Industry.

Mr. Whitlam scored 36 votes and Mr. Bowen 14. Mr. Frank Crean, former Deputy Prime Minister, was considered Mr. Whitlam's only real rival, receiving 13 votes. The contest for the deputy leadership of the party gave an unexpected result, with Mr. Tom Uren, a left-winger, defeating Mr. Paul Keating by 33 votes to 30.

In the Senate leadership vote, Mr. Kenneth Wilkie, of the right wing, was re-elected with a majority of 13 votes over Mr. James McClelland.

The extent of Mr. Whitlam's triumph was underlined by the fact that he gained an absolute majority on the first ballot. At the same time, the caucus also presented him with a possible future problem by electing to review the leadership every 18 months.

Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, has come under lively criticism since his announcement that Australia will retain both the old British honours system, abolished by Labour, and the new Australian system initiated by Labour.

The Australian Day honours announced early this week were awarded on the new system.

The main difference between the Australian and British awards is that the Australians do not confer the prefix "Sir" but only allow initials, such as AC (Companion of Australia) and OA (Order of Australia) to be placed after the surname.

## PLO accepted as member of Unctad group

Manila, Jan 27.—The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was today accepted as a new member of the "Group of 77" developing nations in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

The PLO's membership, approved by senior officials of the group meeting in Passay city, near Manila, brings to 107 the number of members from the developing world taking part in the full Unctad session in Nairobi in May.

The officials began five days of talks yesterday to prepare for a ministerial meeting on Monday, when the group will formulate its position for the Nairobi conference. The PLO's membership was nominated by the Indonesian delegation and seconded by the Latin American and African groups.—Reuters.

## 250 jury candidates as Hearst trial opens

San Francisco, Jan 27.—

Patricia Hearst, the kidnapped newspaper heiress, went on trial here today for bank robbery, and the difficult task of selecting a jury began. Her face showed signs of prison palsy as she entered the courtroom.

Security was tight around the nineteenth-floor courtroom and no spectators were allowed in because there were 250 candidates for the jury, the largest panel ever called here for a federal trial.

The first 114 prospective jurors who filed in were told by Judge Oliver Carter that when finally selected the jury would have to be sequestered. "People call you on the phone, they write letters," he said. "Many of these communications are well-meaning and well-intentioned, yet the people who make the communications know nothing of what they are talking."—Reuters.

## Hostages seized by rebels in Bougainville riot

Arava, Bougainville, Jan 27.—About 800 secessionist rebels, armed with axes, attacked government buildings, barricaded roads and airfields and took officials hostage today to press demands for independence from Papua New Guinea.

They overran and took control of the towns of Buin and Boku, respectively 30 miles south-east and south-west of Arava, the capital. Riot squads ordered to the island by Mr. Michael Somare, the Chief Minister of Papua New Guinea, were unable to land on the runway because of felled trees.

An ultimatum from the secessionists demanding payment of \$42.7m (about £7m) in royalties from the copper mine on the island which provides Papua New Guinea with























## Thrace against time: Putting the record straight

Thrace has had a bad press, on the whole, over the centuries. Herodotus clearly regarded it as *Uthima Thuda* and the inhabitants as barbarians (he added that as the farther reaches were infested by bees), and his view seems to have been the general one. Orpheus came from Thrace, and Odysseus stopped there on the way home, and was presented with some wine so strong that it could be repeatedly diluted without impairing the flavour, which suggests that it must have been rhenish, because you could dilute that with water. High Odyssean Odyssean fuel with out disgusting the dreadful taste. And that is about all I have known about Thrace until now.

But now I have been to the British Museum to see the exhibition of Thracian antiquities, and an amazing experience it has been. (Two experiences, actually, as one visit was not enough, so I went back the next day.) Herodotus was wrong. Indeed, he could hardly have been more wrong, for the Thracian treasure, even from the period before the Greek influence began to seep in, are of an astonishing richness, beauty and sophistication; how the Thracians got their reputation as the country bumpkins of antiquity I cannot imagine.

The comparison that springs to mind is with the Turekhanum exhibition, though (so far, at any rate) the queues, by the mercy of God, are not what they were on that occasion. But the catalogue (exceptionally handsome, efficient and practical) starts memory salivating by the organizers' choice, for the cover, of an illustration so strongly reminiscent of the great gold *lapis-lazuli* mask that closed the Egyptian show that it is positively spooky. It is a grave, found in a tomb of the late fourth century BC, in the form of a woman; the face would have covered the knees-up. The object is not only feminine, however, but shaped like a sarcophagus, and on top of that it has a headless extraordinarily similar to some of those among the Egyptian antiquities, and on top of that the face is composed of alternating stripes of gold and silver, making it even more like the Turekhanum mask than you would think possible.

There are other points of comparison, too, chief among them being the emphasis on death. (Herodotus was amazed by the Thracian custom of rejoicing at death and accompanying a funeral with joyous celebrations.) Of course, many of the objects in the exhibition were found in tombs, and thus must have had some ritual purpose connected with burial, but even so there is a remarkable similarity between the attitudes of the two civilizations, both of which believed that the dead had to be accompanied on their journey into the afterworld.

At that point, however, the attitudes sharply diverge. I remember clearly, from Turekhanum, the strength of the feeling that I was in the presence of a world utterly unreachable by any effort of the imagination, so remote from the present day were the attitudes that informed it. There was a little alabaster jar, for instance, in the shape of a lion standing on one hind leg with

Such an astonishing richness of treasures.

How the Thracians got their reputation as country bumpkins of antiquity I cannot imagine.



A gold rhyton, a Thracian drinking vessel, shown in the exhibition.

a tiny pink tongue hanging out and one front paw gesturing like a politician making a speech; it raised an instant smile, so innocent and charming was it, but the smile was as rapidly displaced by the realization that we had no means of telling what the lion's contemporaries felt when they saw it, and no right to assume that they shared our anthropomorphic view of it. For all I knew, it might have inspired awe, terror, worship or outrage, and those who gazed on it when it was newly fashioned might have found our reaction—“Aaah, how sweet!” quite incomprehensible.

This uncase I felt much more strongly when before the funerary images themselves. For that from and wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command told the sculptor well those passions road; but to what those passions might be I could not discern, at slightest, the attitudes of the civilization of which Turekhanum was a part—and not only the attitudes but the *mores*, organization, relationships—had utterly vanished, and could not be recalled.

And what is so particularly fascinating about the Thracian collection—it is enormous, incidentally, containing all but 600 items—is that although the world here conjured up is—let us rate the earlier strata—as remote in time as that of Turekhanum, it is never the less wonderfully accessible. These people, we feel, were Europeans, and though they may have worshipped strange gods, and eaten strange fruits, and followed strange leaders, and known nothing of plastic flowers, sliced Wonderloaf, nodding dogs, Muzak or Colonel Seifert, they were men like us: you picked them, they would bleed, if you poisoned them, they would die, and the most searching test of all—if you told them a joke, they would laugh.

So, at any rate, I could not help feeling as I made the tour of the Thracian riches. Most of the comment so far has concentrated on the gold, and understandably. There is a group of drinking vessels and pitchers that take the breath away with their delicate, vigorous beauty, and a libation dish with five concentric circles of decoration embossed on it—the innermost of acorns, the

remaining four of neoplatonic heads—and a tiny jug with a “knot” handle decorated with a group of characters; these things are equal to anything found at Mycenae, not excluding the Cup of Nestor itself. The silver, too, is gorgeous almost beyond compare: a massive amphora with handles in the form of snarling lions, a little jug with a Dionysiac celebration represented on it, some elegant drinking-horns ending in horses' heads.

In addition, I was struck by an extraordinarily powerful helmeted mask with a strongly Mongolian cast (you could easily miss this, incidentally, if you follow the otherwise excellent layout of the showcases, for it is on its own in one of the two unnumbered vitrines), a fascinating pair of golden earrings, and a golden bowl so enormous you could both the baby in it.

But the two items before which I lingered the longest, and returned to most often, summed up, standing as they did at opposite ends of the very wide spectrum of religious, ceremonial, decorative and domestic items in the exhibition, the force and eloquence with which these longed people speak to us. First was a golden wreath (funeral, not victory, though it is of laurel) made with such delicacy and verisimilitude that the artist has even reproduced the growth of the “cut” stems, as well as the veins on the leaves, which themselves are so delicate—no thicker than kitchen foil—that they tremble as in a breeze when anybody walks past the case.

The other, and for me the most moving item in the entire display, is a tiny silver sarcophagus, one of a group of five from the second century AD and what gives it its specially poignant effect is that it has been repaired—not by the original craftsman, but by a later, more practical, one. A strip of silver has been nailed across the bottom of the inside, running across one edge of the base and a little way up the side; there are eight pins holding it, and it has been used for a long time after the repair was made, as the patch has now been smoothed exactly into the shape of the vessel. A spark of recognition jumps the gap of seventeen centuries, and came out into Great Russell Street convinced that I had met that thrifty Thracian housewife. There was nothing like that after Turekhanum.

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## “Without your help I don't know what we'd do.”



Dear Salvation Army, here is my gift for your Annual Appeal to help you help those in need. I enclose £... Cheques payable to The Salvation Army. Name... Address... Send to Salvation Army, International HQ, 101 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4EP.

## Moves to change the law meet opposition even from councils

# Should squatting be a criminal act?

A Law Commission proposal in a working paper on conspiracy and trespass, which would have made squatting without consent a criminal offence, will almost certainly be dropped from the commission's final report, following strong opposition from the Greater London Council, the London borough councils, the National Council for Civil Liberties and the independent law centres working group.

The commission's report is to be submitted to the Lord Chancellor this week, though it is unlikely that it will be ready for publication before the end of February or early March. Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, has said that the Government intends to introduce comprehensive legislation without delay to reform the conspiracy and trespass laws once it has considered the report.

Squatting has continued to spread rapidly since the Law Commission first proposed two years ago that it should be made a criminal offence “to be unlawfully on property and to fail to leave as soon as reasonably practicable after being ordered to do so by the person entitled to occupation.” There are now an estimated 30,000 squatters in England and Wales, about 25,000 of whom are in London. This compares with more than 1,500 five years ago.

About 12,000 of these squatters have legal agreements with local authorities allowing them to make temporary use on licence of otherwise unusable short-life properties on condition that they leave promptly when the properties are required for rehabilitation or redevelopment. The squatters pay no rent, but pay for gas and electricity and carry out repairs.

This kind of arrangement between responsible squatting groups and local authorities, which was first begun in Lewisham in 1969, continues to be large to work well, though unobtrusively, to the benefit of both sides. But over the past 18 months, there has been a virtual boom in unlawful squatting, which has attracted the headlines and has brought a

once almost respectable movement into disrepute to all squatters. Many are genuine pathetic cases of homeless families and destitute single people, but they are often joined by well-educated politically-motivated young people, who are not so much seeking a roof to cover their heads as a new life style and a means of confrontation with authority.

Considerable publicity has been given over the past year to isolated cases of squatters moving into newly-decorated council houses due for occupation by families who had been waiting patiently for a council home for years. Lurid stories were told of drug-taking, sex orgies, and even of IRA bomb factories. Some squatters violently resisted attempts to evict them.

Public antipathy toward squatters has reached a peak amounting to near hysteria last summer following letters in *The Times* about the inadequacy of the law, which left private citizens unprotected against squatters. The police would not act in a civil offence.

This, together with the public reaction which followed, prompted a statement from Sir Robert Mark, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, assuring the public that the police would have “no hesitation” in helping owners of furnished residential premises to evict squatters from their homes, though they would not intervene in cases where houses had been left empty for some time. The police would not be acting in the execution of their duty, but would be helping private citizens.

In fact private properties are not usually the targets of squatters, who prefer to occupy local authority blocks which are more likely to remain empty for some time and where there is a chance that they might be found alternative accommodation on eviction. Local authorities have a duty (though not a statutory obligation, as some believe) to provide at least temporary accommodation for homeless families, including pregnant

mothers, but not for homeless single people.

At one time rehousing became a regular demand of squatters on threat of violent confrontation if their demand was not met. But local authorities have been taking a much tougher attitude to these demands following the public outcry over the GLC “surrender” to the 200 unlawful squatters in Elgin Avenue, Paddington, who were evicted last October after a lengthy occupation which cost the council nearly £100,000 in delays to the redevelopment programme, officials time, and legal costs.

The families among the Elgin Avenue squatters were given permanent council homes, not temporary bed-and-breakfast accommodation. This gave rise to bitter complaints of queue-jumping on the housing waiting list.

Why, when confronted with such problems, are councils opposed to unlawful squatting being made a criminal offence? Both the GLC and the London Boroughs Association

explain that they believe the vast majority of squatters are a symptom of the severe housing shortage in London and that they should not be penalised for a situation for which they are not to blame. The councils say they want possession, not punishment.

The High Court ruled in June last year that a warrant for possession of a property enabled bailiffs to evict anyone in that property, whether named or not. This meant that squatters could not escape eviction by swapping properties with another group of squatters between the serving of the summons and the arrival of the bailiffs.

Councils are still anxious, however, to get new clear-cut civil proceedings to put a stop to the “musical houses” game and to prevent reoccupation after eviction. They suggest that court orders should be granted prohibiting the occupation of a designated property. They also want the existing procedure for regaining possession of an unlawfully occupied property to be speeded up and

made more efficient. At present it can take anything from two to six months to complete the proceedings, they say.

The National Council for Civil Liberties and the independent law centres argue that the introduction of criminal sanctions against by-occupiers could lead to abuse by unscrupulous landlords who wished to evict a lawful tenant.

The police themselves are reluctant to become involved in property disputes where lawful occupation or ownership is so often difficult to prove on the spot. They are already required to intervene where there has been or is likely to be a breach of the peace or where a forcible entry or criminal damage to property can be proved.

The Government is not expressing any direct opinion on the squatting problem until after it has considered the Law Commission's report. But Mr Crossland, the Secretary of State for the Environment, has made it clear in various speeches that he sees the squatting problem as part of the whole housing problem, and therefore one which can only be solved by more homes rather than by penal sanctions.

The British Property Federation, representing some 40,000 private landlords, was once strongly in favour of making squatting a criminal offence, but is no longer sure that advantages outweigh disadvantages. It has had almost no complaints from its members about squatters, it says.

The message from all sides seems to be that the authorities have to cope with what has been thought to be a far more threatening problem than it has proved to be. Squatting, for its part, has highlighted the problem of the homeless, and the housing shortage, not only for families but for other categories not previously catered for in the public sector, such as the single worker, and has caused many authorities to be more sensitive about the waste of empty houses.

Diana Geddes



Squatters clearing up in Elgin Avenue.

## The politics behind Ireland's religious war

More than six years of sectarian strife in Ulster have obscured the part played by secular ideologies in the conflict. The recent denunciation of the Provisional IRA by Mr James Callaghan, President of the Marxist oriented official Sinn Féin, is a timely reminder of the bitterness among extremists on the Catholic side of the divide. He denounced the Provisionals for their “destructive and reactionary” in Ireland.

The Ulster problem, and the larger still unresolved Irish question, is about religion—and much more. Fear that Ulster's access to British markets could be threatened by Irish Home Rule was an important factor in Orange agitation before partition. Loyalty to economic self-interest remains an important ingredient in Ulster loyalism.

There has always been a strong political, as well as economic, streak in Northern Irish Protestantism, a garbled descendant of the Glorious Revolution of 1688 and of the American Revolution. To be a Protestant is to believe in, and if necessary fight for, liberty. Earlier this month, the extremist Ulster Defence Association echoed the American Declaration of Independence and the American British Government for failing to guarantee “the natural rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

The demonology about the

Catholic Church is much more warped politics than distorted theology. Rome is taken to stand for the denial of the liberty which the Protestant holds so dear. In spite of the fact that the referendum, which struck out a reference to the special position of the Roman Catholic Church from the southern Irish constitution, the Republic has done nothing to modify the northern Protestants' instinctive feeling that a United Ireland would undermine and demolish liberty. The nationalists' answer to this is that the freedom vaunted by Protestants is the freedom to monopolize power.

But the Protestant attachment to liberty has taken forms often than fear of the opposition to Rome. In the last quarter of the eighteenth century the small town of Belfast, then only the fifth largest in Ireland, was the centre where the most concentrated of the American and French revolutions made an appeal. Nonconformists, although of course to a much lesser degree than Catholics, suffered discrimination and persecution at the hands of the Anglican establishment. Many of the emigrants to the American colonies, Belfast even commemorated the fall of the Bastille.

It was to the educated Presbyterians of the north, often products of Scottish universities where learning was of a higher standard than at Oxford and Cambridge, that the ideas which led to the American and French revolutions made an appeal. Nonconformists, although of course to a much lesser degree than Catholics, suffered discrimination and persecution at the hands of the Anglican establishment. Many of the emigrants to the American colonies, Belfast even commemorated the fall of the Bastille.

While revolutions in the English-speaking world still provide ammunition for Protestantism, the classic and the modern have been replaced by the myth of Irish Republicanism. Wolfe Tone's own conversion to separatism was much more convoluted than the hero worship of him as the father of Irish Republicanism. And yet, but the last years of his brief life were devoted to working for a break in the connexion with England through a French invasion of Ireland. The subsequent failure of all his hopes and the execution of his wife in 1798 should not be allowed to obscure the fact that his aim was to create a nonsectarian

republic for the whole island. Despite their sectarian instincts, the Provisional IRA and its political wing still feel obliged to gentlemen to those whose own great hope was anticlerical, revolutionary France.

Marxist ideology has been a more relevant factor in the present crisis than is often appreciated. It has always been a basic view in the Protestant community that the civil rights campaign of the late 1960s was a front for the IRA. Former gunmen whose last military campaign had ended in utter failure in 1962 had taken on an increasingly Marxist tinge and were involving themselves in political activities like the civil rights movement.

But the real significance of Marxism was the way it helped to tear the IRA apart six years ago. The breakdown of Provisionals could not stomach a political approach involving the fact of recognition of Stormont and the Dail. The inability of the IRA organization at that time to defend Catholic streets in Belfast in the violent days of August, 1969 made talk of working class solidarity across the sectarian divide sound very hollow. But there was also a gut reaction against the leftist path the IRA had taken.

The Provisionals, in turn, were and continued to be concerned with the practicalities of violence. If there were to be a class struggle in Ireland, it would not be furthered by bombs. The Officials have a

past record of atrocities, but their ceasefire in Ulster, announced four years ago, indicates a disenchantment with the gun in present circumstances.

One reason for the comparative success of the Provisionals is that their roots are in simple, Catholic Ireland and that they reject atheistic imports. Although the Provisionals talk about founding a socialist republic, their reflexes are those of men of the extreme right. Most Dublin politicians are deeply conservative, and much of the three years after the IRA split that Fionna Fail was seen from now, they seemed more worried by the Marxists than by the far more active Provisionals. Ironically, the Provisional IRA has used Soviet and east European weapons. The supply of Russian arms and ammunition from Libya cannot be laid directly at Moscow's door, but one of the most famous escapades of the present troubles was the seizure, in Amsterdam in October, 1971, of some armoured cars and other weapons from the Provisionals.

Internationally, Marxists and anti-Marxists have killed each other and Marxists or quasi-Marxists have conducted feuds on both sides of the border. At times it has been a travesty to write about such aspects of Ireland in the language of the Spanish Civil War.

Denis Taylor

## The Times Diary

### Oiling the wheels of diplomacy

are limited to 48 bottles a year a person. The diplomats' own governments sometimes place restrictions on the practice, though. Both the Americans and Russians are allowed only to buy drinks produced in their own countries, though the Soviet practice does not apply to the Americans. The Bulgarians and Poles, by contrast, are allowed to buy drinks from any country, but they are unwilling to say which reporters are playing which part. It is known, however, that Adam Raphael of *The Guardian* has a leading role.

Lobby correspondents have known about the programme for some time but have not written about it, because those taking part have been pledged to secrecy. Part of the reason for this agreeing to this unusual condition was no doubt because, if official objections had prevented the making of the programme, they would not have received their fee for taking part. Now that the film has been made they will be paid, even if official objections finally kill the programme.

For this reason, fearing an eventual veto by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, Granada have prepared the programme under conditions of great secrecy. Although the filming took place last Sunday, they are unwilling to say which reporters are playing which part. It is known, however, that Adam Raphael of *The Guardian* has a leading role.

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the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The bishop said the unions did not take enough constructive initiatives. Jones said they did, but newspapers did not report them. The bishop said the unions should encourage people to look for something more fulfilling than the weekly wage packet, and Jones suggested shorter hours and more free time to develop understanding of the classics and the arts. “I've never really had the chance to appreciate music, which is denied to most working men and women,” he said. Huddleston challenged Jones to say that people in this country were quite rich enough, compared with the third world. Jones said people were already making sacrifices which led to greater things, and that for a country to be rich enough in general did not alter the case for redistribution.

As the audience filed out, McCulloch announced that next week his wife would be talking to a paediatrician, which will make the bridging introduction even more ticklish.

Pioneer

Bill Fox is something of a pioneer, having been one of the first “lunatics” to ride a motorbike, which he went on doing until he was 80. Sixty years ago, he flew jerkily to Paris in a small open passenger plane.

On Monday evening, at Bitch's Restaurant in Soho, he talked about his part in helping John Logie Baird to launch television on an unsuspecting and largely sceptical world. Fox, an ex-journalist of 89, joined members of the Royal Television Society in the building where, 50 years ago, Baird first demonstrated his “television” to the Royal Institution. Baird's role in the discovery of television is disputed. Some

say he created the legend about himself through publicity. “I tried,” said Fox, “to keep him on a straight and sensible track over publicity. It was like trying to drive a car at high speed over an ice rink. He was very difficult to control and very determined.”

His own image was used on the first trans-Atlantic transmission but until Tuesday he had never seen himself on television.

Smashing

Joseph Cheng and his friends celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Chinese New Year of the Dragon by smashing up a selection of poles, planks, thermite blocks and roof tiles. They vigorously destructive efforts were warmly received by an

appreciative and predominantly Chinese young audience who packed the Seymour Hall for Cheng's *kung fu* demonstration on Monday night.

The woman who announced the programme said that *kung fu* had been used for fighting wars but was now practised solely for keeping fit and self-defence. In the item which followed a muscular Negro showed how you could defend yourself without lifting a finger. He let his opponent grab his thick pieces of wood against his braced body.

Then exponents of the northern style, *wu shu kwan*, showed how they could break things with their bare hands, feet, forearms and elbows. “For our style you need cardiovascular endurance and mental stamina,” said the tutor, as a pupil kicked a roof-tile apart in mid-air. Another leapt over six men and broke a block of wood with a flying kick.

As a finale Cheng beat off two attackers with one hand in his pocket, and then saw off seven of his pupils single-handed. Until you have had years of practice, it would be wise to be careful about complaining in Chinese restaurants. The chef might take a flying leap over the table and dispatch you with his foot, or send a waiter to kick the roof off your house.

A Press Association report of the proposed meeting of revolutionary groups in Ireland noted that the last time a similar get-together was planned, some delegates were turned away at British ports. “If they will be asked to turn up in disguise as ordinary terrorists,” that should be all right.

PH

صلى الله عليه وسلم











DR J. R. JONES  
Betterment of  
Hongkong

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ment  
page 19

Dr J. R. Jones

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**NCR**  
Computers & Terminals  
NCR Limited, 206 Marylebone Road, London NW1

### John Methven to take top CBI job from Campbell Adamson

Mr John Methven, the Director of the British Industrial Confederation, is expected to take over the post in the near future. Mr Adamson, who has been in the post since 1973, is expected to leave the CBI in the near future.



Mr John Methven (left) seen yesterday with Sir Campbell Adamson, who has been in the post since 1973, is expected to leave the CBI in the near future.

Mr John Methven (left) seen yesterday with Sir Campbell Adamson, who has been in the post since 1973, is expected to leave the CBI in the near future.

### Equity Bank decision likely to be put off again

After a further meeting yesterday of the working party on the proposed Equity Bank, it was clear that the decision on whether to proceed with the bank will be postponed until next month.

Mr Ernest Bigland, working party chairman, said the meeting had been to "coordinate views and report progress".

### Government tightens rescue rules

After the state rescue of Chrysler UK, the Government has decided to tighten its rules on when it will intervene to help a company in financial trouble.

### EEC lends £85m for British steel plants

Three loans totalling £85m are being made by the European Community to finance steel industry developments in the United Kingdom.

### BSC to cut 1,500 jobs in Scots mills by April

The British Steel Corporation is to cut its 15,000 labour force in the general steel and strip mill division in Scotland by 1,500 men within the next three months.

### Oil list agreed yet strain package

There was likely to be many months of strain during the six months which would not exceed the 5 per cent. On the other hand there would be safeguards which would allow a company to withdraw if costs like raw materials, fuel or taxation brought unforeseen increases.

### Petrol will escape price pact curbs

It now seems certain that the retail price of petrol will not be included in the forthcoming code of voluntary price restraint.

### Tanker recession poses threat to underwriters

Marine insurance underwriters are faced with a grave situation because of the slump in the tanker market, according to Mr Edwin Rainbow, chairman of the Institute of London Underwriters.

### Chrysler stops wages as foremen continue sit-in

Eight hundred Chrysler foremen and supervisors yesterday voted to continue a sit-in at the company's Midland plants.

### Oil put off Abu Dhabi meeting

The meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries scheduled for Abu Dhabi at the weekend has been postponed and no new date for the meeting has yet been fixed.

### Import and wage controls imposed by New Zealand

Wellington, Jan 27.—New Zealand has introduced import and wage controls to cut demand for overseas goods and reduce the trade deficit and the inflation rate.

### Ford adviser gives warning of new economic crisis

From Frank Vogt, Washington, Jan 27. Mr Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, warned congressmen today that another economic crisis would result unless an immediate effort was made to reduce the budget deficit.

### Car men win status fight

Cowley engine tuners have succeeded in their long battle for reclassification as skilled workers.

### markets moved

7p to 135p	Oil	8p to 134p	Bank
5p to 133p	Prop & Rev	5p to 132p	buys
5p to 61p	Sidlow Ind	5p to 72p	541
5p to 415p	Sparrow Ind	5p to 145p	1.61
5p to 150p	Sleep Rock	5p to 210p	38.25
11p to 16p	Unilever	15p to 255p	80.00
3p to 25p	Vaux	5p to 287p	2.02

### THE POUND

4p to 182p	Nat Carbon	3p to 32p	Bank
11p to 243p	Polystyrene	3p to 180p	buys
5p to 581p	Roum Cons. B	5p to 165p	541
10p to 390p	SA Land	5p to 180p	1.61
7p to 380p	Sherman, S.	1p to 10p	38.25
7p to 35p	Unilever	8p to 432p	80.00
7p to 278p	Volkswagen	5p to 83p	2.02

ght selling and SDR-S was 1.16973 on Tuesday while SDR-E was 0.577530. Commodities: Cocoa and coffee strong. Wheat: Rester index was at 1190.4 (previous 1196.4).

Reports, pages 20 and 21

20	Diary	19	Company Meeting Reports:
21	Market reports	20	Charterhouse Group
19	Wall Street	21	Majedie Inv
20	Shares prices	22	McCormick
18	Bank Base Rates Table	21	

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### MAJEDIE INVESTMENTS LIMITED

The Annual General Meeting of Majedie Investments Limited was held on 27th January 1976 in London. Sir John D. Barlow, Bart, who was Chairman of the Meeting said:—



## Cost saving promise on shipbuilding by minister

By Colin Ivermee  
Parliamentary Staff

Mr. Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, said yesterday that some 50,000 jobs might be saved by the shipbuilding industry, which he said was set up at the small size of its headquarters. "The industry simply cannot afford a large bureaucracy," he told the Commons Standing Committee considering the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill. The headquarters of British shipbuilders would be in an assessed area, and there would not be a "light London grip."

Similarly, the headquarters of British Aerospace would be outside central London and the Government was looking carefully for a suitable site. The Government was dedicated to decentralization when the two new corporations were set up to run them. A proper balance would be sought between decentralization and efficiency, with central organizations concentrating on planning. But local decision-making would be kept as close as possible to where work was carried out.

Mr. Kaufman was accepting in principle an amendment tabled by Mr. Heseltine, chief Opposition spokesman for industry, and four other Conservative MPs that "each corporation shall secure the largest degree of decentralization consistent with the proper discharge by the corporation of its duties."

Mr. Heseltine said three specialist warship builders would like to know whether they could expect the continued support of the Government in the development of their expertise. They would also like to know if they could retain selling teams which went overseas to obtain orders, and if they could fulfil such orders without interference from the Government.

The committee approved Clause 2 (general duties of the corporations) by 13 votes to 12.

Referring to a group of amendments proposed by a group of Labour MPs to Clause 3 (activities and powers of the corporations) that the Secretary of State should be required to consult relevant unions before exercising some of his powers, Mr. Kaufman said they were not acceptable.

He said the general question of consultation would be covered in the course of discussions on the implementation of industrial democracy, which would be held with trade unions. To have such proposals in the Bill would restrict the Secretary of State and invite other organizations to press for similar rights to be consulted.

## UK shipyard orders sink to postwar low

By Peter Hill

Orders gained by British shipyards last year sank to their lowest level since 1945, and there are warnings today that unless the industry wins many new contracts soon some yards will have to lay off men. The warning comes from the Shipbuilders' Association, a survey of the industry's prospects. The survey also underlines concern at British shipbuilding companies' tendency to place more new buildings with foreign shipyards.

The shipbuilders, who along with marine engine building companies and ship repairers, will come under state ownership in October this year if the Government's legislative plans are realized, are pressing the need to encourage British owners to build more at home. In talks with Department of

## New approach to falsework urged with emphasis on special training

By Malcolm Brown

A rigorous new approach to falsework—temporary supporting structures for construction work—is recommended in a report published yesterday by a government-appointed committee.

The committee, set up after the temporary structure collapse at Lodon Bridge, Reading, in 1972, which killed three workmen and injured 10 others, is highly critical of what it describes as the "pathetically small" effort expended on training. It says that while most falsework is accident free, it has seen examples of deplorable standards, particularly among medium and small builders.

"The working there appeared to lack method, system, order, and discipline, which are essential for good working conditions and good workmanship," the committee says.

"Indeed, it would not be a great exaggeration to say that we have seen examples of errors in almost every element where errors can occur."

It is estimated, the committee adds, that at any one time there are around 12,000 projects involving falsework, and in 1974 alone there were 20 accidents involving death or injury.

The committee, which started investigations early in 1974, made a detailed examination of the Lodon collapse of 1972 and the collapse at Birding Road, Luton, Kent, which occurred the previous year. It also paid special attention to a sample of 25 falsework collapses which had been investigated by H.M. Construction Engineering Inspectors of Factories, and examined failures in America, Australia, Germany and France.

Among its recommendations are that a code of practice should be designed, and in all but minor projects be approved by a fully qualified engineer; a temporary works coordinator should be appointed on all sites to ensure that all procedures have been followed; and there should be special training courses.

But it will not be enough simply to attend a course. There should be a system of assessment and certification. "Some students may fail but this is inevitable if the standards set are those needed."

To reinforce the training effort the committee recommends that tenders for public sector contracts involving falsework should only be sought from firms who can provide a written record and programme that will ensure that properly trained operatives are employed.

Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Falsework, HMSO, £2.

## Top 'Times' award for Gold Fields



Lord Shawcross (left) chairman of the judges' panel for The Times advertisement awards, hands the Grand Prix to Mr. Gerald Mortimer (centre), deputy chairman and managing director of Consolidated Gold Fields, and Mr. Antony Snow (right), of advertising agents Charles Barker City.

Consolidated Gold Fields, with its advertising agency, Charles Barker City, last night won The Times award for the best advertisement of a company's results in 1975.

Consolidated won the Grand Prix because its annual statement of results—a monochrome advertisement of over half a page—was judged the best among more than 100 entries in clearly conveying information to all concerned.

Mr. Michael Mander, advertising and marketing director of Times Newspapers, remarked on the way that company results advertising, now an improved area of communications, was throwing up "fascinating examples of various approaches to the medium. It had been decided to add to the category prizes a special award this time for Tate & Lyle for creative originality in the use of pairing advertisements on two opposing pages.

Category winners were: Annual results, monochrome or colour half page or above: 1, Guest, Keen & Neill; Advertising agents: Financial Advertising: 2, Tate & Lyle, agents KH Advertising; 3, National and Commercial Banking Group, agents Exel Advertising and PR Services. Less than half-page: 1, A&A, agents Dave Rogers; 2, Incheape and Co., agents Charles Barker City; 3, BOC International, agents Rickie Tibble and Partners.

Interiors of any size: 1, C. T.

Bowering, agents Walter Judd: 2, Jardine Matheson, agents Eric White and Associates (Hongkong) and Charles Barker City; 3, St-Gobain-Pont-a-Mousson, agents Charles Barker City.

The winners of this second annual competition were announced by Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman and editor-in-chief of Times Newspapers. The awards were presented by Lord Shawcross, chairman of the panel of judges, which also included: Mr. A. F. Comford, Censorate and Co; Mr. A. C. Everett, Binder Hamlyn Singleton Fabian; Mrs. Jacqueline Thwaites, Ipswich School of Design; Mr. E. Palamoutiras, M & G Group; and Mr. Hugh Stephenson, editor of The Times Business News.

British Gas is to resume soon its search in the Irish Sea for commercial quantities of gas. Drilling in the area of the concessions granted to Hydrocarbons Great Britain, the corporation's exploration subsidiary, about 30 miles off Blackpool, could start next month.

## Accord on agendas for Paris dialogue

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, Jan 27

Co-presidents of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation who have been meeting in Paris since yesterday have reached agreement on the agendas of the four permanent commissions—an energy, raw materials, development and finance—which will meet in Paris from February 11.

Alan MacEwan, Canadian co-chairman of the conference emphasized that he and his nine colleagues had reached "complete accord". The eight industrialized countries had decided not to put up a competing list of questions to which they had agreed by 19 developing nations, but might later add some subjects.

Questions of organization of the work would be left to the commissions. These would meet simultaneously on February 11 until February 21 or later, but not after November 24.

There would be four other meetings of the commissions between then and July 1. The two conference co-chairmen could, in consultation with the 27 countries participating in the conference fix a meeting of senior government officials between June 16 and 18. Developing countries had pressed for meetings of the

commissions three weeks in every month, which meant "institutionalizing" their activities.

But the industrial countries, which argued that the commissions should meet only one week a month to ensure high level representation and allow time to refer back to governments at all stages in the negotiations, finally got their way.

The 13 finance ministers of the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries held parallel discussions in Paris today on the setting up of a \$1,000m aid fund, decided on last autumn to help developing countries over balance of payments and development programmes in 1975.

Most of the Opec discussions were taken up with the "administrative problems" involved in setting up the fund. A spokesman emphasized that Opec did not wish to "institutionalize" the fund, or create a new organization to run it. The fund would be run by Opec through a novel kind of mechanism, and this aid would be "neopolitical, ethical or political consideration".

Among the administrative problems involved was the amount to be contributed by each of the 13 member countries.

## NVT sales target of 10,000 for new moped

By Clifford Webb

Norton Villiers Triumph is back in business with a new motorcycle. The first examples of a 50cc NVT moped went on sale this week at £145, and the company hopes to sell 10,000 in its first year.

NVT stopped all motorcycle production in December, and closed its remaining factory at Small Heath, Birmingham. The new moped—the NVT Easy Rider—is being assembled at a converted warehouse at Shenstone near Lichfield, by a newly registered company, NVT Motorcycles.

A labour force of only 10 is assembling the moped mainly from Italian components. It has a 50cc Morini two-stroke engine operating a single-speed transmission through an automatic clutch.

An NVT spokesman said last night: "The moped market in Britain was only just short of 100,000 machines last year. We believe that at £145 they are competitively priced against big sellers such as the Australian Puch at £134, the cheapest Honda at £139 and the French Mobylette at £130."

Winter set back for building orders

Builders won orders worth £468m in November, £135m less than in the previous month. This was probably slightly more of a dip than might have been expected during a winter month, but the total was still marginally better, in current price terms, than that for November 1974.

Expressed at constant (1970) prices and adjusted to exclude seasonal variations, total new orders from September to November, 1975, were 6 per cent down on the previous three months, but 2 per cent up on the comparable period of 1974.

Farm machinery boost

Britain's exports of farm machinery and tractors last year expanded by nearly 50 per cent to a total of over £626m, compared with £419.4m in 1974. Imports rose by 41 per cent from £128.4m in 1974 to £180.3m last year.

Investment in EEC

European Community countries' investment this year is likely to remain "very moderate," the European Commission said in its latest monthly economic statement yesterday. However, the improvement in the economic climate may lead to an upward revision of capital spending programmes in some industries and countries.

Irish Sea gas search

British Gas is to resume soon its search in the Irish Sea for commercial quantities of gas. Drilling in the area of the concessions granted to Hydrocarbons Great Britain, the corporation's exploration subsidiary, about 30 miles off Blackpool, could start next month.

BP quits Turkey quest

British Petroleum has abandoned oil prospecting in Turkey after drilling on massive scale exploratory wells in the eastern province of Sirt last year, according to oil industry sources in Ankara.

£4.5m pit expansion

A £4.5m expansion programme at Bevercotes colliery in Nottinghamshire was announced by the National Coal Board yesterday. The scheme would expand double production by 1981-82 to 1.5 million tons a year and provide jobs for a further 330 miners.

Scottish transport plea

Big road, rail and sea projects were needed for the remote north-eastern corner of Scotland before it could realize its industrial potential, the Scottish Council, Development and Industry stated in a submission yesterday to Mr. Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland.

UK sales to Japan up

Britain was the only major European industrial country to increase its sales in Japan for key exports like transport equipment, machinery and manufactured goods last year. In the first 11 months of 1975 they rose 13.8 per cent over the same period of 1974.

Jetsave moves into inclusive holidays field

By Patricia Tisdall  
Jetsave, probably the largest of the transatlantic advance booking charter companies, has moved into inclusive holidays yesterday.

Previously specializing in low cost travel across the Atlantic, Jetsave, which expects a gross turnover this year of around £10.5m, is moving into the accommodation field.

Prices start at £155 for 13 nights in New York inclusive of air travel and accommodation. Other destinations include Los Angeles, Toronto, Miami Beach, Chicago, San Francisco and Vancouver.

The holidays are operated in conjunction with scheduled airline services including TWA and British Airways. Also involved are Hilton Hotels, Holiday Inns, and the Greyhound bus company. The holidays are covered by a money-back guarantee.

Overall, travel to the United States during the first nine months of 1975 to £40.82 according to figures compiled by the United States Travel Service. This is a drop of 5.5 per cent on the 360,993 who entered the country in the same period of 1974.

Lord Melchett attacks small firms' attitudes

By Our Industrial Editor

An attack on spokesmen for small businesses was delivered in Bursley yesterday by Lord Melchett, newly appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Planning for change in industry

From Sir Ian M. Stenort

Sir, The rising trend in unemployment should not be a surprise to anyone who appreciates that in depressed Britain today there can be no alternative when all sectors of industry are not only attempting to cope with inflation and high taxation, but also to respond to the urgent need for competitive efficiency in world markets.

Some companies are simply struggling to avoid bankruptcy. Total failure to anticipate the obvious social consequences of change has been a recurring feature of all British governments and their respective advisers since the war.

Regrettably long-term planning, which requires radical change in employer attitudes and trade union rule books, is not a vote catcher, and it is easier to print money, subsidize inefficiency and condone over-managing.

Whatever the accuracy of the statistics, the truth is, particularly in the traditional craft industries, that there are hundreds of thousands of tradesmen who are potentially redundant and at best must live with the certain prospect of a fall in status due to down-grading as semi-skilled or unskilled operators as the only refuge from unemployment.

The unions quite rightly resist this unnecessary threat and undoubtedly, even though moderate opinion is clearly on the ascendancy, will continue to do so until retraining/planned redeployment facilities are available through which they can be provided with alternative employment of equal status.

In Sweden, for instance, where living standards are high and unemployment is more or less confined to the unemployed, never less than 1 per cent of the working population only one reply which showed under retraining for other skills due to the interchangeability, and would be widely accepted as a sensible, non-political, fiscal advance on current about the mixed economy greater devolution.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN STEWART,  
Lochbrae House,  
53 Drymen Road,  
Bearsden,  
Glasgow G61 2RN.

Helping to fill engineering jobs

From Mr M. C. Beal

Sir, It is a remarkable situation with unemployment at present levels that the Department of Employment should be so inflexible in its methods of operation.

My company is expanding rapidly and seeks to recruit a wide cross section of engineering personnel. This led me to write a personal letter to seven Employment Information Centres in the major unemployment areas asking them to refer suitable candidates for interview and at the same time to advise me of engineering companies that are or may shortly be contemplating redundancies.

You can, therefore, imagine my dismay at having received only one reply which showed any real interest, the first four have referred my vacancies to the local Employment Centre who, of course, already know of my requirements.

Yours faithfully,  
M. C. BEAL,  
Managing Director,  
Airscrew Howden Limited,  
Weybridge,  
Surrey KT15 2QR,  
January 22.

Trouble over credit cards

From The Rev H. A. Williams

Sir, Like all Religious I have no money of my own, so I do not have a bank account. But since I arrived at this Community in July, 1969, I have had sent to me unsolicited through the post six (or it may be seven) Barclaycard notices. I would be all right if I like a cheque they could be torn up and thrown into the waste-paper basket. But Barclaycards are not so easily destructible. Why should I have the regular, and apparently, troubling notices cutting them up with a saw?

I would be grateful for advice from your readers. If I use a Barclaycard and possess no money, presumably I am liable to legal penalties? If, however, I could be reliably informed that the bank alone would have to bear the damage, then, next time a Barclaycard arrives I will use it to buy some caviar and champagne for myself and my brethren.

Yours angrily but hopefully,  
H. A. WILLIAMS,  
Community of the Resurrection,  
House of the Resurrection,  
Miffhill,  
Yorkshire,  
January 16.

Doing a deal over the tachograph

From Mr Charles Simeons

Sir, The tachograph so very different from other recording instruments attached to sophisticated industrial equipment and welcomed by operators who do their jobs well, for it to be tagged the "lorry spy" (January 20)?

If HGV drivers are to enjoy status and conditions similar to their colleagues in the factory, they must accept similar instrumentation—which many realize all too well.

ECGD policy premiums

From Mr B. P. Holt

Sir, The initial premium for our Export Credit Guarantee Department policy, without which we could not export, and on which further premiums are payable on individual declarations, has risen as follows:

1971/4 £5 for 3 years  
1974/6 £10 for 2 years  
1976/7 £50 for 1 year.  
(During this period we have not made any claims.)

Yours faithfully,  
B. P. HOLT,  
Director,  
A. Holt & Sons Limited,  
115 Whitecross Street,  
London EC1Y 8JQ,  
January 23.

Profit before tax 22% up on last year.

Rights Issue has significantly improved the financial strength of the Company.

Investment in specialist activities provides a strong base for future progress and growth.

Year ended 30th September

1975 1974

£000 £000

Group Turnover 40,864 28,975

Profit before Taxation 2,344 1,923

Net Profit 1,170 863

Earnings per share 27.0p 20.4p

Ordinary Dividend 12.750p 11.329p

Copies of the report and accounts may be obtained from

The Secretary, McCorquodale & Company Limited, P.O. Box 66,

McCorquodale House, Telford Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 2TA.

## Chrysler-VW decision near

By Peter Hill

Detroit, Jan 27.—Chrysler Corporation and Volkswagen are expected to decide "within a month" whether Chrysler will buy engines from VW for use in its planned subcompact car, industry sources said.

Negotiations have been going on for several months on various car-making and parts arrangements. Industry sources said the possible arrangement initially involves only the purchase by Chrysler of VW power plants, or engines and related parts, designed for smaller cars.

Japan in talks on £650m nuclear sale to Russia

Moscow, Jan 27.—Negotiations began here today on a scheme for Japan to sell the Soviet Union 10 nuclear power plants worth about 400,000 yen (about £650m).

A 14-man delegation representing Japan's nuclear power industry, met officials of the Soviet State Atomic Energy Commission to discuss the proposed deal. They agreed on a schedule of negotiations to last until the end of the week, Japanese sources said.

According to the Japanese atomic industrial forum in Tokyo, the Soviet Union has shown an interest in the power plants for its new five-year plan which continues until the end of 1990. Each plant would have an output of up to 1.3 million kilowatts.—Reuter.

Far Eastern Review

In a report published on November 10, The Far Eastern Economic Review was described as a "semi-official" publication. The Review is jointly owned by the South China Morning Post and the Dow Jones Company, with no element of government ownership.

## Life offices reopen debate on commission rates

By Margaret Stone

The Life Offices Association has reopened the question of differential commission rates for insurance brokers, agents and other intermediaries.

The move follows the recent formation of the British Insurance Brokers Council, which ultimately aims to unify the four principal insurance brokers' organizations into one professional body.

At the same time a questionnaire has been sent out to all insurance offices asking them to give a breakdown of the amount of business coming from various sources. This is at the request of the Department of Trade.

There is nothing new in the idea of differential commission rates. It was first debated by

## Jetsave moves into inclusive holidays field

By Patricia Tisdall

Jetsave, probably the largest of the transatlantic advance booking charter companies, has moved into inclusive holidays yesterday.

Previously specializing in low cost travel across the Atlantic, Jetsave, which expects a gross turnover this year of around £10.5m, is moving into the accommodation field.

Prices start at £155 for 13 nights in New York inclusive of air travel and accommodation. Other destinations include Los Angeles, Toronto, Miami Beach, Chicago, San Francisco and Vancouver.

The holidays are operated in conjunction with scheduled airline services including TWA and British Airways. Also involved are Hilton Hotels, Holiday Inns, and the Greyhound bus company. The holidays are covered by a money-back guarantee.

Overall, travel to the United States during the first nine months of 1975 to £40.82 according to figures compiled by the United States Travel Service. This is a drop of 5.5 per cent on the 360,993 who entered the country in the same period of 1974.

## Equipment leasing record

Britain's equipment leasing companies had a record year in 1975, buying new plant worth £340m and boosting the total cost of leased assets to £1,425m, a rise of almost a third on 1974.

The Equipment Leasing Association said that last year its 35 member companies also collected a record £280m in lease rentals against £222m the previous year. At the end of 1975, the total number of leased contracts on members' books was 321,000.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Prospects of recovery Reed International

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76 (1974-75)  
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Mr J. W. Buckley, chairman of  
Davy International, benefiting  
from international interests.

### Concrete Pentos in the background

Mr Terry Maher's Pentos  
group has increased its stake  
in Concrete Ltd from 23.2 per  
cent to 25 per cent since Christ-  
mas. But Pentos, which failed  
to reach agreement with Con-  
crete over a possible 50p  
share bid last September, now  
has "no plans at all to make  
an offer", according to Mr  
Maher.

If shareholders remain doubt-  
ful about Concrete's decision to  
wind off the Pentos approach  
they can take comfort from the  
half-year results.

Despite the building recession  
and the consequent fall in de-  
mand for structural precast  
concrete products, Concrete's  
pre-tax profits for the six  
months to September 30  
reached £898,000, against  
£375,000 in the comparable  
period last year. The board  
recommends an interim divi-  
dend of 2p gross per share, and  
intending raising the payment for  
the full year by the maximum  
permissible from 4p to 4.84p a  
share gross.

Concrete's shares rose 5p to  
61p on the results, to yield a  
prospective 7.9 per cent on a  
twice-covered dividend. And its  
trimmed-down form, looks  
well placed to benefit from an  
upturn in building activity.

Concrete's 100% subsidiary  
attractive on trading grounds  
leaving assets earnings and yield  
considerations. The chances that  
Pentos will ultimately bid again,  
or pass the stake to someone  
else who will.

Interim 1975-76 (1974-75)  
Capitalization £5.7m  
Turnover £15.99m (£11.34m)  
Pre-tax profits £898,000  
(£375,000)  
Dividend gross 2.0p (1.5p)

### Leyland Paint Facing the cash squeeze

Leyland Paint & Wallpaper has  
found itself in an unpleasant  
cash squeeze. Its £1.1m term  
loan from National Westminster  
falls due for repayment in  
October but with profits more  
than halved and retentions a  
mere £135,000, despite no divi-  
dend payments it has been  
forced back into the bank's  
arms, both to enable it to meet  
the immediate repayments and  
to "broaden the capital base".  
The question is whether the  
package now being put to  
shareholders for approval does  
much to improve the finan-  
cial outlook.

County Bank, NatWest's main  
creditor.

Mr J. W. Buckley, chairman of  
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from international interests.

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or pass the stake to someone  
else who will.

cheat bank subsidiary, is put-  
ting in a new term loan of  
£1.25m plus £250,000 in the  
form of 10 per cent convertible  
preference shares, which will  
finance the repayment of the  
old term loan and enable Ley-  
land to reduce its £1.1m over-  
draft.

In the context of current  
borrowings of £3.46m and a  
net worth of £1.55m, any move to  
broaden the capital base must  
be welcome, but, as Leyland  
itself admits, it still faces a  
"rather high ratio of debt to  
equity" for the foreseeable  
future.

And in the meantime, the  
cost of continued bank support  
is not low. The margin over  
interbank rate on the new loan  
is 3 per cent, instead of 2.4 per  
cent on the old one, and the  
terms of convertible preference  
issue are such as to allow  
County Bank to convert at 25p  
against a current market price  
of 30p, down 4p yesterday.

At the end of the day, full  
conversion would give County  
Bank 35 per cent and a man on  
the board. Leyland is mean-  
while looking for a new chair-  
man.

The consolation is that at  
least the second half of the  
year saw a marked revival  
after the £68,000 first  
half loss. The group is also  
talking about getting back into  
the dividend list as soon as  
possible. For the shares, all  
this should be modest encour-  
agement, once they have recovered  
from the dividend shock, but it  
might need some more reassur-  
ance from the present year's  
results before much revival in  
the price can be expected.

Interim 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £1.75m  
Sales £16.7m (£14.6m)  
Pre-tax profits £0.42m (£0.96m)  
Earnings per share 2.8p (7.2p)  
Dividend gross — (4.63p)

### S & W Berisford Balance sheet strength

Pre-tax profits at S & W Beris-  
ford have virtually doubled  
over the last three reported  
financial years, admittedly a  
period that took in a specu-  
lative upturn in commodity prices.

But even last year, when the  
downs of the key sugar market  
appeared to be more in evidence  
than the ups profits went ahead  
by nearly 23 per cent.

A recovery from £1.3m to  
£2.6m in 1975-76, the group  
United Kingdom companies  
provided the main thrust for  
an overall pre-tax rise from  
£7.9m to £9.3m. This offset de-  
clines elsewhere.

In broad terms, the group  
probably has to "avoid a real  
upturn in the western econo-  
my towards the end of the  
year before it makes any sig-  
nificant leaps forward. Mean-  
while, it has emerged in even  
better shape.

Net borrowings show a fall  
of over 4m during the year.  
Cash resources in the balance  
sheet have risen from £14m to  
£61m and presumably much of  
that will be deployed in the  
acquisition of policy which  
group appears to be committed  
to. And these figures exclude  
the £3.4m raised via a rights  
issue since the year-end.

This, a one-for-one split, part,  
substantially enhanced the divi-  
dend. Given that the group  
should be a prominent benefi-  
ciary of any upturn in world  
trade a p/e ratio of around  
9 and a yield of 6.4 per cent  
with the shares at 143p has its  
attractions.

Interim 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £38.33m  
Net assets £18.24m (£13.77m)  
Borrowings £5.85m (£10.06m)  
Pre-tax profits 9.33m (£7.58m)  
Earnings per share 32.2p (27.5p)

On pre rights capital.

## Subsidizing jobs without adding to inflation

The Government's basic  
dilemma is that it cannot think  
of how to reduce unemployment  
without increasing inflation. It  
laments the loss of output and  
misery that results from unem-  
ployment, and demands the  
state to subsidize the unemployed  
on the public finances. But it  
argues that any steps to in-  
crease output will lead to at  
least as great an increase in  
the demand for output, and  
thus to more inflationary pres-  
sure.

However, there is, in fact, a  
way to increase output which  
will probably add less to  
demand than to supply, and  
reduce the borrowing require-  
ment. It is this:

Each week every expanding  
firm is given a subsidy of, say,  
£10 a week times the difference  
between its current full-time  
workforce in that week and its  
average full-time workforce in  
1975. The scheme is guaranteed  
to last until at least April 1977.

The result is that some firms  
employ more workers than they  
otherwise would. What is the  
effect of this on the supply and  
demand for output?

Suppose one more man is  
employed at the average male  
wage of around £50 per  
week. We can assume that he  
must be producing at least £50  
worth of output, since he is  
costing his employer £50 in

wages less £10 in subsidy. So  
increase in supply = £50 per  
week.

The effect on demand de-  
pends on the increase in the  
worker's net spending power,  
assuming he spends all his  
income. If he is married with  
a child, his income from  
work (after tax and National  
Insurance deductions) will be  
about £44 a week. But if he  
were unemployed he would be  
getting £31 in unemployment  
benefit. So

Increase in demand = £13  
per week.

We have increased output,  
and reduced the pressure of  
demand on supply (by £37 a  
week).

But what, a monetarist asks  
has happened to the public  
sector borrowing requirement?  
The tale here is equally beau-  
tiful. For a subsidy of £10 the  
Exchequer has gained £15 in  
taxes and National Insurance  
contributions and £31 in  
reduced unemployment benefit  
— a net saving of £37.

There must be a snag, and  
there is. For the subsidy has  
to be paid out in respect of  
all extra workers employed in  
any expanding company.  
Whether or not they are hired  
because of the subsidy, thus  
the subsidy is paid not only for  
"jobs created" but for "in-  
creased increases" in jobs. And

even when employment is  
stable, as it was in 1975, some  
companies do increase their  
employment while others cut  
back. So how does this affect  
our conclusions?

When one new job is created  
the addition to supply is still  
£50 a week, as before. But the  
increase in demand is now £13  
a week plus the effect on spend-  
ing of the subsidy paid out for  
the corresponding number of  
"increased increases" in jobs.  
Let us (plausibly) suppose that  
no fraction of these subsidies  
is saved. Then for each job  
created

Increase in demand =  
£13 + (£10 x intended increase)  
Jobs created

So the increase in supply ex-  
ceeds the demand only if the  
number of "jobs created" is at  
least one quarter (10/50 = 1/5)  
of the number of "intended in-  
creases" in jobs. The same  
condition is required if the bor-  
rowing requirement is to fall.

How likely is the condition to  
be satisfied? Here there are  
two unknowns. The first con-  
cerns the number of "intended  
increases" in jobs. We have no  
data on these increases, even  
for the past, though the Govern-  
ment could construct past esti-  
mates from its records.

However, suppose "intended  
increases" are half a million a  
year (equivalent to an average  
growth of about 4 per cent a

year within expanding com-  
panies). The other unknown is  
the response of labour demand  
to the fall in the marginal price  
of labour by one sixth. If the  
number of "jobs created" is to  
be equal at least one quarter of  
"intended increases", it must  
be at least 125,000. This requires  
an elasticity of demand for  
labour of only 0.03.

The reader can make his own  
guess at both these unknowns,  
but concludes that the scheme is  
unlikely to be inflationary, or if  
it is, that the small addition to  
net demand is well worth the  
reduced unemployment. If the  
Government were more worried  
about the risk of increased  
inflationary pressure, it could  
offer a lower subsidy of, say, £5  
a week. The size of the subsidy  
will not affect whether the  
effect on net demand is positive  
or negative but only its absolute  
size, and, of course, the level  
of unemployment.

Two further problems need to  
be mentioned. I have focused on  
the impact effect of the scheme  
on the net demand for output,  
using very rough calculations.  
But what about effects on wage  
pressure in the labour market?  
Even if product prices fell  
lower, unemployment could  
possibly increase upward pres-  
sure on wages. However, we can  
hope that over this period  
incomes policy will be dealing  
with that problem.

Richard Layard puts forward one approach to the  
Government's dilemma over unemployment

## Russia's chances of making a comeback in Africa

Alan Hutchison

Soviet calculations; hence her  
careful cultivation of Nigeria  
in the last few years where  
there is a good demand for the  
Soviet Lada car. The latest  
available figures show that  
Soviet exports to Africa are  
worth some £285m yearly, or  
3.7 per cent of all Soviet ex-  
ports. Figures for imports are  
more difficult to compile, but  
one can surmise that altogether  
trade with the continent is  
more or less in balance.

Future possibilities of trade,  
then, do figure in the Kremlin's  
African policies. But to invest  
£100m in the MPLA would be  
to "discount" many years of  
Soviet-Angolan trade, and  
Russia's interest in Angola  
is political rather than commercial  
considerations.

Briefly, these are the expan-  
sion of the Russian navy and  
the belief that in the next  
decade black-white confronta-  
tion in southern Africa could  
well develop into a major war,  
possibly involving outside  
forces. Good relations with  
Angola and Mozambique are  
vital if Moscow is to make a  
significant contribution to  
expanding warlike in South  
Africa and Rhodesia (a com-  
mercial bonus of which would  
be to force up the price of  
gold).

As a foreign policy tool the  
Soviet Union's aid programme  
to Africa has not been a suc-

cess; well over half has been  
in the form of military aid,  
nearly all of it to Egypt, which  
could hardly have been said to  
have won friends or influence,  
while the civilian programme  
has fared scarcely better.

Since completion of the  
Aswan Dam the Russians have  
fought shy of "prestige" pro-  
jects, and probably the biggest  
aid project they are involved in  
on the continent is a proposed  
hydro-electric complex and  
development of a new bauxite  
mine, both in Guinea. Their  
fishing agreements (usually to  
train fishermen, set up a  
national fleet and establish an  
onshore processing plant) have  
been mentioned, and in Somalia  
they have helped resettle about  
120,000 nomads on the coast and  
retrain them as fishermen.

Assistance is given in the  
training of a number of army  
officers in Somalia and Uganda.  
It would be foolish to pretend  
that no Soviet assistance is  
either welcome or useful, but  
even the Russians would not  
claim spectacular success for  
their African aid programme.

What must be particularly  
galling to the Russians is that  
it is the Chinese who have  
benefited from their policy.  
Indeed, China's Eight Principles  
of Foreign Aid were delib-  
erately drawn up to highlight the  
drawbacks of Soviet aid, includ-  
ing the relatively harsh terms  
(Chinese aid is interest-free,  
while Soviet aid is usually at  
2.5 per cent interest), the life-  
style of aid experts (Africans  
had accused Soviet experts of  
leading American-style lives),  
the aims of aid (China claimed

to become self-reliant, while the  
Soviet Union was creating a  
dependency) and finally the  
type of aid. China stressed  
agriculture and labour-intensive  
factories, in contrast to the  
heavy industrialization policies  
of the Soviet Union.

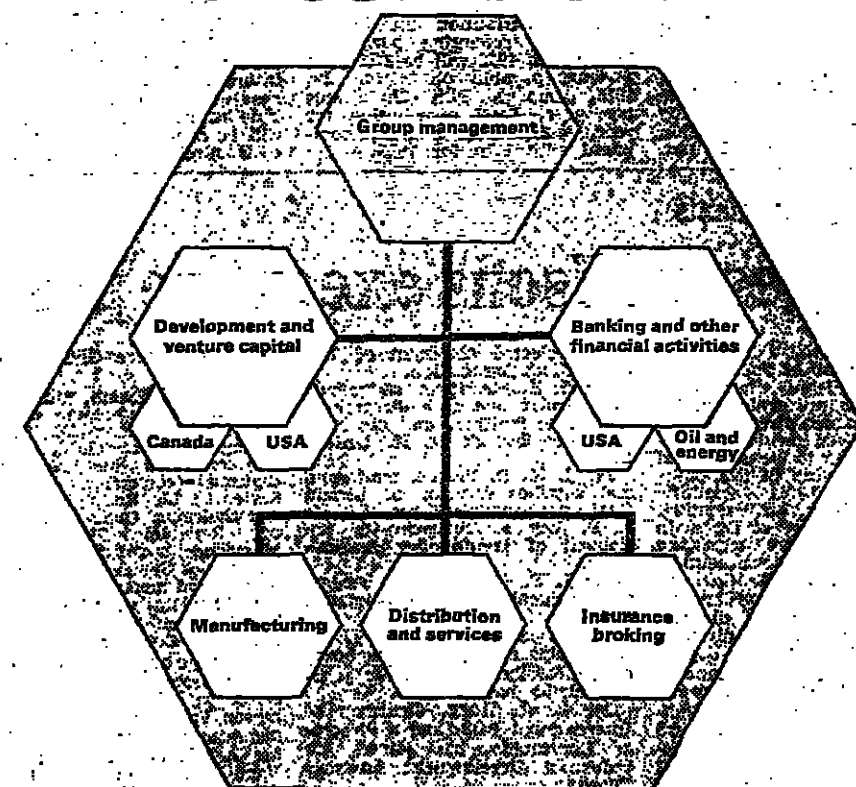
All this made sense to Afri-  
cans, who enthusiastically  
sought and were given, Chinese  
aid for agricultural projects,  
light industries, irrigation  
schemes and road building.  
Teams of barefoot Chinese  
doctors have won praise all  
over the continent; China even  
managed her own prestige pro-  
ject, the £170m Tanzam railway,  
due to come into full service  
later this year.

Chinese philosophies on self-  
reliance have become accepted  
development theory. Africans  
of the third world block in the  
United Nations. Even so, China  
has failed to persuade any Afri-  
can nation to take her side in  
the Sino-Soviet dispute: there is  
no African Albania.

But if so far, the 1970s have  
been China's decade in Africa.  
The Soviet Union might yet  
come into its own. When the  
chips are down Moscow can act  
swiftly and effectively, flying  
in men and material. A major  
confrontation in southern Africa  
would show the Soviet Union to  
advantage.

In the same way, as African  
economies become more sophis-  
ticated, Soviet experience in  
industrialization will become  
valuable. Angola may be a turn-  
ing point in many respects.

## THE CHARTERHOUSE GROUP LIMITED



"The benefits of the Group's broad spread of  
interests were again demonstrated during a  
difficult year..."

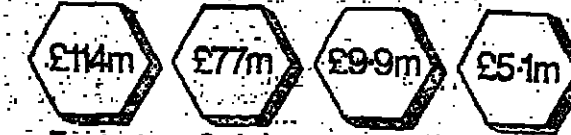
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for the expansion of our subsidiaries and for  
further investment in productive plant. In  
addition, there are many opportunities for  
investing in private companies and small public  
companies which have a vital need for equity  
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take every opportunity to use its available  
resources to make further profitable investments,  
either alone or in conjunction with other investors  
or partners."

J. G. Vaughan, Chairman  
in his Annual Statement.

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## Business Diary: Methven's head hunters • Scot free



Methven, Murray and Wilson: we can fight among  
ourselves later.

known, although it is that  
Methven did not apply for the  
job.  
Sackur said that he was sur-  
prised at the number of people  
in high places and earning a  
lot of money who were inter-  
ested in the job, even if it  
meant taking a cut-out of what

Spencer Stuart, originally an  
American firm, is now owned  
by the consultants in its 14  
offices throughout the world  
and is chaired by a Briton,  
Peter Brown.

When the London office have  
got over this assignment, the  
toughest of the year, they could  
always pitch to Shirley Wil-  
liams, Secretary of State for  
Prices and Consumer Protec-  
tion. After all, she's got to  
appoint a successor to Methven  
at the O.T.

Adam's appeal  
The late Peter Goodrich of  
Indianapolis, Indiana, seems to  
play a big part in a new  
colour film, *Adam Smith*, and  
the sage of Kirkcaldy himself.  
But then Goodrich (not the tyre  
man) paid for the film.

Goodrich, who died in 1973,  
just short of the bicentenary of  
the publication of Smith's book,  
made and left a fortune that  
came from having a finger in  
most of the financial pies baked  
in Indianapolis in his lifetime.

About £27m of this found its  
way into the Liberty Fund Inc,  
a foundation he endowed to  
back educationists who would  
spread "the study of an ideal  
of a society of free and respon-  
sible individuals."

The film, which is free to  
anybody who wants to borrow  
it, lasts for 28 minutes and has  
found its way here as part of  
the Institute of Economic  
Affairs' *Wealth of Nations*  
bicentenary marketing.

The executive of the fund is  
John H. McLeod, whose  
family emigrated to America  
not long after Smith's book  
appeared. He was in London for

yesterday's showings, and said  
that the only United States Gov-  
ernment agency with which the  
Liberty Fund had any truck  
was the Internal Revenue

McLeod was with the film's  
leading adviser, Professor  
Ronald Coase, an economist  
from the University of Chicago.  
Coase, who was heard to declare  
that "most economists are  
Marxists", is being backed by  
the fund for a non-film study  
of Alfred Marshall.

The narration, however, is  
not by Coase but by another  
Smith disciple, Professor Ben-  
jamin Rogge, of Wabash  
College, Indiana. "Smith's argu-  
ment," he declares, "is that in  
the system of natural liberty,  
the self-interest of each indi-  
vidual working through the  
division of labour and the  
accumulation of capital is  
harnessed to the interests of  
the whole of society."

Old Adam himself, whose  
lines are spoken by Gordon  
Jackson, the bawdy Hudson in  
*Upstairs, Downstairs*, is made  
to intone: "It is the highest  
impermeable and presumption  
... in kings and ministers to  
pretend to watch over the econ-  
omy of private people. For  
kings and ministers are them-  
selves always, and without  
exception, the greatest spend-  
thrifts in society..."

These words are heard over  
footage of the offices of the  
Departments of Trade, Indus-  
try and Prices and Consumer  
Protection in Victoria Street.

The film over McLeod's first  
questioner asked icily for what  
of said it had been made.  
McLeod replied: "Not children  
... students, and some econo-  
mics professors who might not  
have heard of Adam Smith."







## REPORTS

## Commodities

LEAD advanced slightly in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price rose from 10.00 to 10.05. In New York, it rose from 10.00 to 10.05. The price of lead in London is 10.05 and in New York is 10.05.

SUGAR prices were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of sugar was 10.00. In New York, the price of sugar was 10.00. The price of sugar in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

COFFEE prices were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of coffee was 10.00. In New York, the price of coffee was 10.00. The price of coffee in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

SOYBEAN MEAL was firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of soybean meal was 10.00. In New York, the price of soybean meal was 10.00. The price of soybean meal in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

WHEAT prices were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of wheat was 10.00. In New York, the price of wheat was 10.00. The price of wheat in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

CORN prices were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of corn was 10.00. In New York, the price of corn was 10.00. The price of corn in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

EUROBOND PRICES (midday indicators) were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of Eurobond was 10.00. In New York, the price of Eurobond was 10.00. The price of Eurobond in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

GOVERNMENT BONDS were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of government bonds was 10.00. In New York, the price of government bonds was 10.00. The price of government bonds in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

CORPORATE BONDS were firm in both the London and New York markets. In London, the price of corporate bonds was 10.00. In New York, the price of corporate bonds was 10.00. The price of corporate bonds in London is 10.00 and in New York is 10.00.

SALE & CO LIMITED, London, E.C.2, Tel: 01-638 8651. The company is a leading firm in the sale of goods and services. It has a wide range of products and services to offer its customers.

SALES & SERVICES: The company offers a wide range of sales and services to its customers. It has a long history of providing high-quality products and services.

CONTACT: For more information, please contact the company at the address above. The company is located in London, E.C.2, and can be reached at Tel: 01-638 8651.

RICAN CORPORATION, GOLD MINING COMPANIES. The company is a leading firm in the gold mining industry. It has a long history of providing high-quality gold mining services.

DIVIDENDS: The company has a long history of paying dividends to its shareholders. It has a strong track record of providing high-quality gold mining services.

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## Foreign Exchange

The dollar and sterling closed marginally higher in European currency trading yesterday, with the dollar up against the franc and the pound up against the mark.

The dollar rose a net 10 points to close at 10.05 against the franc. The pound rose a net 10 points to close at 10.05 against the mark.

The dollar and sterling were both up against the franc and the mark. The dollar was up 10 points and the pound was up 10 points.

Money moved quite steadily early on at rates as low as 10 per cent, but conditions grew worse as the day wore on and final balances were taken within a band of 10 to 11 per cent.

A feature of the day's trading was the very heavy turnover in Treasury bills. Rates dropped from 9 1/2 to 9 1/4 per cent, already discounting a further quarter-point reduction in Minimum Lending Rate this week.

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## Discount market

Credit conditions remained tight on Lombard Street and the Bank of England assisted the market as a very large scale, purchasing Treasury bills from the banks and houses and corporation bills from the home producers, in order to meet the need for slightly more help, suggesting the banks would be carrying run-down balances forward.

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## Wall Street

New York Jan 27—Issues on the New York stock exchange closed mostly lower today. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 3.70 to 957.81. Declining issues led gains by about 780 to about 750.

Volume—totalled—32,070,000 shares, compared with 34,470,000 yesterday.

Brokers said that profit-taking prevailed despite some buying at levels below Monday's closings. The stock market fell off moderately in early trading.

In the day's economic news, productivity in the fourth quarter rose at a far slower pace than in the third quarter. The United States trade surplus hit a record \$11.05 billion for 1975 despite a December decline, and a deficit in the third quarter. The Commerce Department said that the deficit in the third quarter was \$1.1 billion.

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## Silver gains 5.7 cents

New York Jan 27—SILVER prices rose 5.7 cents to 10.05. The price of silver in London is 10.05 and in New York is 10.05.

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## Canadian Prices

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX: 957.81. The index was down 3.70 points. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 3.70 to 957.81.

THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE: 957.81. The average was down 3.70 points. The Dow Jones industrial average was off 3.70 to 957.81.

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Feb 6. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 17  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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THE TIMES SHARE			
The Times Share Index for date-June 1, 1964 relative to 1929=100			
	1964	1963	1962
	Index	Index	Index
The Times Industrial Share Index	100.00	100.00	100.00
Largest Co's.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Largest Co's.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Smaller Co's.	100.00	100.00	100.00
Capital Goods	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consumer Goods	100.00	100.00	100.00
Share Change	100.00	100.00	100.00
Largest financial shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Largest financial shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Connected companies	100.00	100.00	100.00
Gold Mining shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Industrial securities shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Capital Goods shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Consumer Goods shares	100.00	100.00	100.00
Share Losses - 20 -	100.00	100.00	100.00

A record of the Times Share Index to prove honesty

All-time	100.00	100.00	100.00
1929	100.00	100.00	100.00
1932	100.00	100.00	100.00
1937	100.00	100.00	100.00
1942	100.00	100.00	100.00
1947	100.00	100.00	100.00
1952	100.00	100.00	100.00
1957	100.00	100.00	100.00
1962	100.00	100.00	100.00
1963	100.00	100.00	100.00
1964	100.00	100.00	100.00

\* Plus Interest















